

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

Nº 1982.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855.

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ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.—A.B. Marble Street.—The WEEKLY EVENING MEETINGS of the Members of the Royal Institution will commence for the Season on FRIDAY, the 19th of January, 1855, at half-past Eight o'clock; and will be continued on each succeeding Friday Evening, at the same hour, till further notice.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE LECTURES BEFORE

ELEVEN LECTURES ON MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY.—By John Tyndall, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., Prof. of Natural Philosophy in the Royal Institution. To commence on Tuesday, January 16th, at Three o'clock; and to be continued on each succeeding Tuesday, at the same hour.

ELEVEN LECTURES ON ENGLISH LITERATURE.—By William H. Donist, Esq. To commence on Thursday, January 15th, at Three o'clock; and to be continued on each succeeding Thursday, at the same hour.

ELEVEN LECTURES ON THE PRINCIPLES OF CHEMISTRY.—By John Hall Gladstone, Ph.D., F.R.S. To commence on Saturday, January 20th, at Three o'clock; and to be continued on each succeeding Saturday, at the same hour.

Subscribers to the Lectures are admitted on payment of Two Guineas for the Season, or One Guinea for a single Course. A Syllabus may be obtained at the Royal Institution.

JOHN BARLOW, M.A., Sec. R.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Second Annual Exhibition of this Society is now open, at the Rooms of the Society of Watercolour Painters, Pall Mall East, in the Morning from Ten to Five, and in the Evening from Seven to Ten. Admission, Morning 1s., Evening 6d. Catalogue 6d.

THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION and Collection of Patents, Manufactures, &c., connected with Architecture, is NOW OPEN at the Galleries of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East. Admission, One Shilling. Season tickets, for students and others desiring to come frequently, Half-a-crown. Catalogues, Sixpence.

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MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC is NOW OPEN EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three o'clock. Stalls can be taken at the H.O. office, every day from Eleven till Four, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855.

REVIEWS.

The Origin and Progress of the Mechanical Inventions of James Watt. Illustrated by his Correspondence with his Friends, and the Specification of his Patents. By James Patrick Muirhead, M.A. Murray.

AMONG the monuments of the illustrious dead in Westminster Abbey there is none upon which an Englishman may look with more just pride than the statue of James Watt. On such a memorial the chisel of Chantrey and the pen of Brougham were worthily employed. The inscription is in eloquent words, now for ever associated with the triumphs of the sculptor. "Not to perpetuate a name, which must endure while the peaceful arts flourish, but to show that mankind have learned to honour those who best deserve their gratitude, the King, his ministers, and many of the nobles and commoners of the realm, raised this monument to James Watt; who, directing the force of an original genius, early exercised in philosophic research, to the improvement of the steam-engine, enlarged the resources of his country, increased the power of man, and rose to an eminent place among the most illustrious followers of science, and the real benefactors of the world. Born at Greenock, 1736; died at Heathfield, in Staffordshire, 1819." A tribute even more honourable and significant than the national monument in Westminster Abbey is Arago's brilliant *éloge* of Watt. In this was borne a noble testimony to a fame which is the common property of all countries. It is a fame, too, which must increase with the progress of civilization, and spread wherever the benefits of his inventions become known. Since his death the greatest writers of the age have vied in celebrating his praises. The present publication will serve to explain, though it can do little to increase, the fame of James Watt. Some further information concerning his personal history, and his pursuits and discoveries, has long been desired. Forty years ago Sir David, then Mr. Brewster, urged his friend to write an account of the origin and progress of his inventions, a record in which the world could not but take deep interest. In compliance with this request, Mr. Watt prepared a narrative, the only one he ever published, which is contained in his commentaries on Professor Robison's *Dissertations on Steam and Steam-engines*. This narrative is extremely brief, the writer not professing either to render Dr. Robison's work a complete history of the steam-engine, or to have given a detailed account of his own numerous improvements. "The former," he says, "would have been an undertaking beyond my present powers, (he being then above seventy-eight years of age); and the latter must have much exceeded the limits of a commentary on my friend's work. I have therefore confined myself to correcting such parts as appeared necessary, and to adding such matter as he had not any opportunity of knowing." It was known, however, that he had left many manuscripts, and in a treatise on the Steam-engine by Mr. Farey, published in 1827, the author said that "the writings of Mr. Watt would be a valuable accession to the stock of knowledge possessed by engineers; and it is due to his fame that they should be made public." With the exception of a brief biographical sketch, prepared for the *Encyclopædia Britannica*

by the late Mr. James Watt, shortly after his father's death, and a selection from his correspondence on the subject of the discovery of the composition of water, published a few years ago, none of the original manuscripts of the great inventor have, until now, been brought to light. It seems that the late Mr. James Watt had long contemplated editing his father's papers, but the work was postponed, and on his death in 1848, in his eightieth year, he made over to his executors the whole further care of the publication. Such are the circumstances under which the present editor undertook the task, which he has performed with creditable zeal and ability in the work before us. The mass of letters and other papers put into his hands was most ample, and he has only given a selection according to his own judgment. From the fragmentary state in which many of the letters are given, and the frequent gaps in the series, we think there must be many things in the correspondence still worth being made public, though we quite sympathize with the editor in the difficulty experienced of making "a sufficiently discriminating choice and a vigorous enough rejection." The introductory memoir is very complete, and leaves little to be desired as to the knowledge of Watt's life and character. With the general outline of his history every one is familiar, through the memoirs of Arago and of Brougham, in his 'Lives of Men of Science,' and the many popular biographies of Watt that have since appeared. We confine our notice of Mr. Muirhead's memoir to some of the points on which light is thrown by the private correspondence now first published.

To the story of the early life of Watt there are few additions of importance made in this memoir. The editor says that the ill health of the boy may have led to habits that determined his future career, his frequent confinement at home causing him to find amusement in drawing, writing, cyphering, and other manual and indoor occupations. It is also stated that among the few articles of decoration in his father's humble residence were portraits of Sir Isaac Newton, and of John Napier, the inventor of logarithms. Excepting some family portraits, these were the only pictorial ornaments in the house. How they came there no one knows, but if they did not direct they did predict the destiny of the little philosopher, who must often have inquiringly gazed upon their features.

In 1754, at the age of eighteen, James Watt was introduced to some of the learned men at Glasgow University, through his mother's kinsman, Mr. Muirhead, Professor of Oriental Languages. Dr. Dick, Professor of Natural Philosophy, observing the talents of the youth, advised his friends to send him to London, where he might perfect himself in the calling for which he was then intended, the making of mathematical and philosophical instruments. In the company of a relative, he travelled on horseback through England, as was then the custom, the journey occupying twelve days. After a time he obtained employment with Mr. Morgan, mathematical instrument maker, in Finch-lane. Here he made rapid and steady progress as a skilled workman. After a few months, he "had done a Hadley's quadrant better than his master's apprentice, who had been two years with him; and equal aptitude he showed in making theodolites, azimuth compasses, and other instruments, among which with reasonable pride he mentions "a brass sector with

a French joint, which is reckoned as nice a piece of framing work as is in the trade."

"But all this early expertness was not acquired for nothing; it cost him a constant and hard struggle to reach that step on the upward ladder; and his labours were rendered the more severe by the state of his health, from which he had of late greatly suffered. He had not only, as was his wont, led a life of the most regular and unremitting industry, and spared no exertion by which he might diminish to his father the cost of this part of his education, but his endeavours to attain that end were accompanied by a rigid self-denial on which, however in itself exemplary and laudable, it is almost painful to reflect. Lodging (it is believed) under the roof of his master, but not receiving from him any of his board, the cost of his food was in all but eight shillings a week; lower than that, he writes, he could not reduce it 'without pinching his belly.' Even of that pittance, a great portion was earned by himself; for he found that he was able to 'win' some money on his own account by rising still earlier than he had to go to his master's work. The bread so bought must have tasted sweet indeed to his lips; but at night he was thankful enough to get to bed 'with his body wearied, and his hand shaking, from ten hours' hard work.' In his letters to his home, while describing the frugality of his way of life, and regretting the charge his living must be to his father, on whom he fervently prays that the blessing of God may rest, he repeatedly adds, that he is striving all he can to improve himself, that he may be the sooner able to assist him, and to ensure his own maintenance.

"An unexpected danger at that time hung over his destiny, which might have cut short, at least for a time, his projects of further improvement in natural science, and postponed *sine die* his return to Glasgow College, with all its interesting consequences. This sword of Damocles was the chance of being impressed as a seaman for the navy. He writes, in the spring of 1756, that he avoids 'a very hot press just now by seldom going out.' And on a later day he adds, 'they now press anybody they can get, landsmen as well as seamen, except it be in the liberties of the City, where they are obliged to carry them before my Lord Mayor first; and unless one be either a 'prentice or a creditable tradesman, there is scarce any getting off again. And if I was carried before my Lord Mayor, I durst not avow that I wrought in the City, it being against their laws for any unfree man to work, even as a journeyman, within the Liberties.'

Such were some of his early difficulties. In shattered health and somewhat depressed spirits, he returned to Glasgow in August, 1756. Professor Dick again befriended him. Through the exclusiveness of trade, he was forbidden to exercise his craft:—

"Neither being the son of a burgher, nor having served a regular apprenticeship to a craft, he was visited, by tradesmen of more arrogant and far more unfounded pretensions than the modest youth whom they persecuted, with a sort of temporal excommunication; and was forbidden to set up even a humble workshop, himself its solitary tenant, within the limits of the burgh. He now signally found the advantage of that academical support which the University uniformly extended to him. By midsummer, 1757, he had received permission to occupy an apartment and open a shop within the precincts of the College, and to use the designation of 'Mathematical-instrument-maker to the University.'

From this time commenced his friendship with Dr. Robison and with Dr. Black, upon which depended so much of his future success and fame. Forty years after, both these distinguished men had occasion to give public narratives of their early intimacy with Watt, and to tell what they knew of his pursuits and inventions. On the celebrated trial in

1796-7, on the infringement of Mr. Watt's patents, Dr. Black and Dr. Robison prepared documents containing most interesting details. M. Arago has given some extracts from these papers; but they are here printed in full. We give the commencement of Dr. Black's narrative:—

"I became acquainted with Mr. James Watt in the year 1757 or 1758, at which time I was Professor of Medicine and Lecturer of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow. About that time Mr. Watt came to settle in Glasgow as a maker of mathematical instruments; but being molested by some of the corporations, who considered him as an intruder on their privileges, the University protected him by giving him a shop within their precincts, and by conferring on him the title of Mathematical-instrument-maker to the University.

"I soon had occasion to employ him to make some things which I needed for my experiments, and found him to be a young man possessing most uncommon talents for mechanical knowledge and practice, with an originality, readiness, and copiousness of invention, which often surprised and delighted me in our frequent conversations together. I also had many opportunities to know that he was as remarkable for the goodness of his heart, and the candour and simplicity of his mind, as for the acuteness of his genius and understanding. I therefore contracted with him an intimate friendship, which has continued and increased ever since that time. I mention these circumstances only to show how it happened that I was thoroughly acquainted with the progress of his inventions, and with the different objects that engaged his attention, while I remained at Glasgow, and, in a great measure, ever since.

"A few years after he was settled at Glasgow he was employed by the Professor of Natural Philosophy to examine and rectify a small workable model of a steam-engine, which was out of order. This turned a part of his thoughts and fertile invention to the nature and improvement of steam-engines, to the perfection of their machinery, and to the different means by which their great consumption of fuel might be diminished. He soon acquired such a reputation for his knowledge on this subject, that he was employed to plan and erect several engines in different places, while at the same time he was frequently making new experiments to lessen the waste of heat from the external surface of the boiler, and from that of the cylinder.

"But after he had been thus employed a considerable time, he perceived that by far the greatest waste of heat proceeded from the waste of steam in filling the cylinder with steam. In filling the cylinder with steam, for every stroke of the common engine a great part of the steam is chilled and condensed by the coldness of the cylinder, before this last is heated enough to qualify it for being filled with elastic vapour or perfect steam; he perceived, therefore, that by preventing this waste of steam, an incomparably greater saving of heat and fuel would be attained, than by any other contrivance. It was thus, in the beginning of the year 1765, that the fortunate thought occurred to him of condensing the steam by cold in a separate vessel or apparatus, between which and the cylinder a communication was to be opened for that purpose every time the steam was to be condensed; while the cylinder itself might be preserved perpetually hot, no cold water or air being ever admitted into its cavity.

"This capital improvement flashed on his mind at once, and filled him with rapture; and he immediately made a hasty trial of it, which satisfied him of its value, employing for this purpose a large brass syringe which he borrowed from a friend.

"His mind became now very much employed in contriving the machinery by which this improvement might be reduced to practice; and he soon planned it to such a degree, that he thought he was ready to make an experiment on a large

scale. But here he was stopped by the want of funds; and he found it necessary to associate himself with some person who had money and spirit for such an undertaking, and to participate with him the advantages which might be derived from this invention. He addressed himself to the late Dr. Roebuck, whose spirit for enterprise and improvement in arts was very well known, and the Doctor accordingly received with zeal the opportunity offered to him. A small engine was soon built in one of the offices of Kinnell House, near Borrowstoness, where various trials were made, and some difficulties surmounted, so as to give satisfaction.

"I must add that I was as much upon a footing of intimate friendship with Dr. Roebuck as with Mr. Watt. The Doctor, too, had no small degree of mechanical knowledge and ingenuity; and was well qualified to perceive and value the talents of Mr. Watt. He had also much experience of the use of common steam-engines, which he employed in working his colliery. He was withal ardent and sanguine in the pursuit of his undertakings, and was therefore a fortunate associate for Mr. Watt. Mr. Watt was a valetudinarian, more or less, ever since I knew him; and his mind was liable to be too much depressed by little cross accidents, or by the necessity of a greater expense than he had foreseen; whereas the Doctor was undaunted on such occasions, and roused Mr. Watt to disregard expense, and to double his exertions, until the difficulty was overcome. But Mr. Watt was the sole inventor of the capital improvement and contrivance above mentioned. I remember very well that it cost me several reasonings and conversations to inform the Doctor fully of the nature of steam, of the great quantity of heat, and, consequently, of fuel, necessary to produce it, and of the importance, therefore, of preventing the waste of it."

A very important document connected with the same trial was prepared by Mr. Watt himself, for the information of counsel, and, through them, of the court. It is entitled 'A Plain Story.' It is too long for insertion here; but it will form a remarkable feature in future narratives of the history of the steam engine. To the discoveries and inventions of his predecessor he does full justice, enumerating all the steps previously made in bringing the machine to the state at which he found it. He concluded the paper in this unpretending way:—

"W.'s invention is merely a contrivance to prevent cooling the cylinder, and to make the vacuum more perfect by condensing the steam in a vessel distinct from the cylinder itself; this is the nature of the invention. The means of keeping the cylinder warm,—the substitution of the powers of steam for those of the atmosphere,—of grease, &c., in place of water to keep the piston tight,—and the drawing out the air, &c., by means of pumps,—are merely aids in performing the principal object. This ought to be kept in view in judging of the specification; also that W. supposed it to be addressed to mechanics and philosophers, and not to the ignorant."

It was in 1774 that Mr. Watt became formally associated with Mr. Boulton, who purchased from Dr. Roebuck his share in "the new fire-engine." Mr. Boulton was a fine specimen of the British manufacturer, a man of great ingenuity, shrewd sense, high integrity, and princely liberality. Watt thus wrote of his partner and friend:—

"Through the whole of this business, Mr. Boulton's active and sanguine disposition served to counterbalance the despondency and diffidence which were natural to me; and every assistance which Soho or Birmingham could afford was procured. Mr. Boulton's friendly and amiable character, together with his fame as an ingenious and active manufacturer, procured us many and very active friends in both Houses of Parliament."

That Watt needed such a friend to cheer

and encourage him will appear from the desponding strain of the following letter, written in 1769 to his friend, Dr. Small, of Birmingham:—

"I am resolved, unless those things I have brought to some perfection reward me for the time and money I have lost on them, if I can resist it, to invent no more. Indeed, I am not near so capable as I was once. I find that I am not the same person I was four years ago, when I invented the fire-engine, and foresaw, even before I made a model, almost every circumstance that has since occurred. I was at that time spurred on by the alluring hope of placing myself above want, without being obliged to have much dealing with mankind, to whom I have always been a dupe. The necessary experience in great was wanting; in acquiring it I have met with many disappointments. I must have sunk under the burthen of them if I had not been supported by the friendship of Dr. Roebuck. * * * I have now brought the engine near a conclusion, yet I am not in idea nearer that rest I wish for than I was four years ago. However, I am resolved to do all I can to carry on this business, and if it does not thrive with me, I will lay aside the burthen I cannot carry.

"Of all things in life, there is nothing more foolish than inventing. Here I work five or more years contriving an engine, and Mr. Moore hears of it, is more *éveillé*, gets three patents at once, publishes himself in the newspapers, hires 2000 men, sets them to work for the whole world in St. George's Fields, gets a fortune at once, and prosecutes me for using my own invention!"

After joining Mr. Boulton, the career of Watt was one of great prosperity. The history of the Soho Works at Birmingham occupies no unimportant place in the annals of our national progress. It is calculated that the amount of power called into being at this single factory, by the skill of man, in the last seventy years, is not far from that of two hundred thousand horses. Of old Mr. Boulton, and of others connected with this great industrial establishment, many remarkable anecdotes are recorded in this memoir. Mr. Boulton died in 1809, in his seventy-second year, having been born in 1728—the year, as he playfully used to remark, which expresses the number of square inches in a cubic foot, and in which Sir Isaac Newton died. In 1816, the present Czar, then the Grand Duke Nicholas, when in England, asked leave to visit the Soho works; but permission was refused, as some spies were in his train, ready to pick up what information could be pirated. In his early life Watt was offered 1000*l.* a-year as an engineer in Russia, a proposal which, fortunately for this country, he declined.

In the history of Watt's residence at Birmingham, his connexion with a remarkable group of men, under the name of the Lunar Society, forms an interesting episode. Among the members were Dr. Darwin, Mr. Edgeworth, Dr. Priestley, Dr. Withering, Mr. Keir, Dr. Small, and others distinguished in the annals of science. Dr. Priestley thus refers to the Lunar Club in his memoir:—

"I consider my settlement at Birmingham as the happiest event in my life; being highly favourable to every object I had in view, philosophical or theological. In the former respect I had the convenience of good workmen of every kind, and the society of persons eminent for their knowledge of chemistry; particularly Mr. Watt, Mr. Keir, and Dr. Withering. These, with Mr. Boulton and Dr. Darwin, who soon left us by removing from Lichfield to Derby, Mr. Galton, and afterwards Mr. Johnson of Kenilworth, and myself, dined together every month, calling ourselves the *Lunar Society*, because the time of our meeting was near

the full-moon, in order,' as he elsewhere says, 'to have the benefit of its light in returning home.' From an invitation from Mr. Watt to Mr. Wedgwood to attend one of the dinners of the society, we learn that it was customary for the philosophic convives 'to dine at two o'clock, and not to part till eight in the evening.' "

The latest notice extant of this memorable society is a dedication of a work of Priestley to the members in 1793. Many schemes and speculations were discussed at these meetings, which afterwards were carried out to important results. Among these is mentioned the composition of water, with which Watt surprised his friends as early as in 1781. That he anticipated Priestley, Cavendish, and Lavoisier in this great discovery, has been now acknowledged by Davy, Henry, Arago, Brougham, Dumas, Berzelius, Brewster, Jeffrey, and Liebig—an array of authorities against which the names of Peacock, Whewell, and George Wilson present very inconsiderable weight.

Our space forbids us further to follow Mr. Muirhead in his interesting memoir; next week we must find room for one or two extracts from the correspondence of Watt.

Lives of the Queens of Scotland. By Agnes Strickland. Vol. V. Blackwood and Sons. In reviewing former volumes of Miss Strickland's 'History,' we have so fully and freely stated our opinions of its merits and its faults ('L. G.' 1852, p. 787; 1853, p. 1020), that we content ourselves with merely noticing the progress of the work. The biography of Mary Stuart is now brought down to her imprisonment in the Castle of Lochleven, the present volume containing the narrative of events from the birth of James I., in 1566, to the compulsory abdication of the Queen, in July 1567. In this period is included the tragical and, after all that has been written on the subject, the mysterious murder of Darnley, and the Queen's marriage with Bothwell. Miss Strickland is so blindly enthusiastic an admirer of Mary Stuart, we scarcely expect to find the real state of matters in her narrative, the spirit of an advocate rather than of a historian being displayed. But the truth is, that the story of the unfortunate Queen of Scots is scarcely ever told with impartiality. Every writer seems to think it necessary to take decidedly one side or other on the questions under dispute, and the reader is left to form his own judgment from the conflicting arguments and appeals. M. Mignet and other foreign historians have shown greater frankness and impartiality than English and Scottish writers on the subject, and to their researches and testimony those must look who care to ascertain the real truth as to Mary Stuart's life and history. The spirit in which Miss Strickland writes may be seen in a single line concerning the historian Buchanan, when she says, "His statements ought, as a general rule, to be regarded as the reverse of fact."

In the following passage her own views of the character of the Queen, and of the proceedings of her enemies, are expressed with characteristic plainness:—

"Although both Mary and her only child, the heir-apparent of the realm, were in the hands of the Lords of Secret Council, and held by them in separate strongholds in the sure keeping, the one of Mary's mother, brothers, and brother-in-law Lord Lindsay, at Lochleven, the other in that of his uncle, the Earl of Mar, at Stirling Castle, the

game was still a doubtful one. It was found difficult to persuade persons of common sense that their mild and merciful Queen, who had borne her faculties so meekly, and abstained from shedding the blood of her greatest foes, could have become the sanguinary and unwomanly fiend her persecutors represented her. She had returned to them, in the first flower of her youth and beauty, a widow in her nineteenth year, after passing through the ordeal of the most licentious and seductive court in Europe with unsullied fame. Her departure from France had been lamented by the good and noble of that realm as a national calamity, and she had been followed to the place of her embarkation by the tears and blessings of all degrees of people. She had not yet reigned full seven years in Scotland, but they had been years of blessedness to her subjects, such as Scotland had never seen before, and might never see again. She had healed the wounds and remedied the miseries which nineteen years of war, foreign and internal, had inflicted on that unhappy country. She had employed her gentle influence, as woman should, in reconciling feuds, smoothing rough places, and teaching vindictive and hereditary foes to learn from her own example the Christian duty of forgiveness. Law reforms of an important nature, and beneficial to all classes, especially to the poor, had been effected under her wise and maternal jurisdiction. She had laboured to mollify the persecuting spirit of the times, and that so successfully that an 'Act for Liberty of Conscience,' originating purely with herself, had passed in her last Parliament. She had studied to promote those useful and ornamental arts and manufactures, which not only gave refinement and grace to a hitherto barbarous state of society, but enabled the people to provide for the wants of life, instead of relying, as the previous generations had done, on predatory habits or conventual alms. Never had any sovereign effected so much good in so short a period of time, under circumstances of such difficulty. It was necessary to represent her the exact reverse of what she really was, and to turn the pulpit into a political rostrum for her defamation, before the hearts of the people of Scotland could be alienated from her lawful ruler.

"The preliminary notes of the ecclesiastical trumpet of sedition were sounded on Sunday, July 13th, by 'the proclamation for a general fast and convention of the brethren in Edinburgh, to last from that day to the following Sunday.' Mary's formidable antagonist, John Knox, returned on the 17th, like a giant refreshed by the fifteen months of repose he had enjoyed since his precipitate departure from Edinburgh on her triumphant return to her metropolis, after her bloodless victory over her cruel foes. The wheel of fortune had revolved since then. Mary had acted according to her natural clemency, by extending the golden sceptre of mercy, instead of smiting with the sword of justice the guilty law-breakers who had invaded her in her own palace, shed blood in her presence, constituted her a prisoner, treated her with every species of insult and cruelty, and deliberated in council to take away her life. She had forgiven them, but they had injured her too deeply to be softened from their malignant purposes by her magnanimity. They had wreaked their murderous vengeance on her husband for breaking the unnatural league into which they had seduced him in his youth and inexperience, and they were about to charge their own crime on her. They spoke first to Throckmorton 'of prosecuting justice against the Queen, of making a process to condemn her, to crown the Prince, and to keep her in prison all the days of her life; and lastly, of making her condemnation public, and depriving her of her dignity and her life.' The Queen desired to submit her cause to a Parliament, but they intended to pack a convention among themselves, not to try, but to condemn and slay her, after a judicial form, in violation of law and justice."

Miss Strickland's account of Mary's escape from Borthwick Castle is too good to be omitted:—

"If Mary had been content to remain quietly at Borthwick Castle, all might perchance have gone well with her; but seeing herself relieved for a few brief hours from the terror of Bothwell's presence, she could not resist the opportunity of making a valiant effort to regain her liberty. At the midnight hour, arrayed in the dress of a cavalier, booted and spurred, she stole from her chamber unattended, and gliding down a turret stair, let herself down from the window in the banquet hall, which is still pointed out by local tradition, and though the height cannot be less than eight-and-twenty feet, reached the ground in safety, being probably assisted by her ladies from within, passed through the same low postern in the wall by which Bothwell had previously escaped; and while all in the castle were wrapped in their first sound sleep, she, their Sovereign, walked forth unobserved into the night without a single person either to defend or guide her on her unknown way. She mounted a close-cropped nag which she found bridled and saddled without the walls at the foot of the mound. It must have been provided for her use by some faithful person of low degree, to whom she had confided her intention. Such among the readers of Mary's biography who may chance to be familiar with the local features of that wild district of mountain, moor, and moss, in which Borthwick Castle is situated, will not be surprised that the royal fugitive became bewildered in the then trackless labyrinth of glens, swamps, and thorny brakes, through which she vainly strove to make her way to a place of refuge she was never doomed to find. According to local tradition, her humble steed carried her over Crichton Muir, which, at that sweet season of the year, is the haunt of innumerable glow-worms. Those 'stars of the green earth' were perhaps the only lights that shone on the lonely path of Scotland's hapless Queen. She must have travelled in a circle, for after wandering all night, she had made so little progress that at dawn of day she was encountered near Black Castle, at Cakermuir, scarcely two miles from Borthwick, by Bothwell himself, at the head of a party of his vassals. She had then no choice but to accompany him whithersoever he chose to take her, and he hurried her away with him once more to Dunbar. She performed the whole journey, we are told, riding on a man's saddle.

"Those who pervert every fact into evidence of Mary's imaginary passion for Bothwell, assert that she escaped from Borthwick in order to rejoin him, and met him in consequence of a mutual agreement on this spot; but the tale is too absurd for anything save an episode in a romance, where all difficulties are got over by the pen of a ready writer. Bothwell, as we have seen, provided for his own safety when he saw Borthwick surrounded by so numerous a company of assailants, leaving the Queen to take care of herself. How could he make any appointment for their meeting on the following night or morning, when he left the castle in which she was invested by twelve hundred men? If he had foreseen the contingency of their retiring without storming the castle, he would surely not have fled with such precipitation from it as he did; and if he had expected Mary to follow, he would at least have ordered some of his people to watch for her, and take care of her by the way. The circumstances under which she got out of Borthwick Castle speak for themselves, and proclaim that she was willing to encounter any peril in preference to aiding his return.

"Bothwell had a very near chance of falling into the hands of his enemies the night he left the Queen at Borthwick, for he and his companion, the Master of Crookston, being perceived as they stole down the mound, were pursued; they then separated, and fled in different directions. Lord Home's men gave chase, and captured young Crookston; but Bothwell, though they were within an arrow-shot of him, had the good luck to escape, and remained perdue all the next day, while the confederate Lords and their array were still swarming round the walls of Borthwick Castle. How, then, could there be any agreement of the kind between the Queen and him, or any

probability of their meeting again, after his unchivalric desertion of her, except through a fatal coincidence. This, as the castles of Crichton and Cakermuir were part of his own domains, naturally occurred in consequence of his lurking in that neighbourhood among his vassal lairds and kinsmen; for poor Mary, neither knowing her way nor being provided with a guide, unhappily crossed his path. The nag on which she was mounted had probably been accustomed to go to Black Castle, and took that road."

We give also the narrative of the scene of lawless violence at Lochleven Castle, where Mary was compelled to abdicate in favour of her son:—

"The conspirators, calling themselves the Lords of Secret Council, having completed their arrangements for their long-meditated project of depriving her of her crown, summoned Lord Lindsay to Edinburgh, and on the 23rd of July delivered to him and Sir Robert Melville three deeds, to which they were instructed to obtain her signature, either by flattering words or absolute force. The first contained a declaration, as if from herself, 'that being in infirm health, and worn out with the cares of government, she had taken purpose voluntarily to resign her crown and office to her dearest son James, Prince of Scotland.' In the second, 'her trusty brother James, Earl of Moray, was constituted Regent for the Prince her son, during the minority of the royal infant.' The third appointed a provisional council of regency, consisting of Morton and the other Lords of Secret Council, to carry on the government till Moray's return; or, in case of his refusing to accept it, till the Prince arrived at the legal age for exercising it himself. Aware that Mary would not easily be induced to execute such instruments, Sir Robert Melville was especially employed to cajole her into this political suicide. That ungrateful courtier, who had been employed and trusted by his unfortunate sovereign ever since her return from France, and had received nothing but benefits from her, undertook this office. Having obtained a private interview with her, he deceitfully entreated her 'to sign certain deeds that would be presented to her by Lindsay, as the only means of preserving her life, which, he assured her, was in the most imminent danger.' Then he gave her a turquoise ring, telling her 'it was sent to her from the Earls of Argyll, Huntley, and Atholl, Secretary Lethington, and the Laird of Grange, who loved her Majesty, and had by that token accredited him to exhort her to avert the peril to which she would be exposed, if she ventured to refuse the requisition of the Lords of Secret Council, whose designs, they well knew, were to take her life, either secretly or by a mock trial among themselves.' Finding the Queen impatient of this insidious advice, he produced a letter from the English ambassador Throckmorton, out of the scabbard of his sword, telling her 'he had concealed it there at peril of his own life, in order to convey it to her;—a paltry piece of acting, worthy of the parties by whom it had been devised, for the letter had been written for the express purpose of inducing Mary to accede to the demission of her regal dignity, telling her, as if in confidence, 'that it was the Queen of England's sisterly advice that she should not irritate those who had her in their power, by refusing the only concession that could save her life; and observing that nothing that was done under her present circumstances could be of any force when she regained her freedom.' Mary, however, resolutely refused to sign the deeds, declaring with truly royal courage, that she would not make herself a party to the treason of her own subjects, by acceding to their lawless requisition, which, as she truly alleged, 'proceeded only of the ambition of a few, and was far from the desire of her people.'

"The fair-spoken Melville having reported his ill success to his coadjutor Lord Lindsay, Moray's brother-in-law, the bully of the party, who had been selected for the honourable office of extorting by force from the royal captive the concession she denied, that brutal ruffian burst rudely into her

presence, and, flinging the deeds violently on the table before her, told her to sign them without delay, or worse would befall her. 'What!' exclaimed Mary, 'shall I set my hand to a deliberate falsehood, and to gratify the ambition of my nobles relinquish the office God hath given to me, to my son, an infant little more than a year old, incapable of governing the realm, that my brother Moray may reign in his name?' She was proceeding to demonstrate the unreasonableness of what was required of her, but Lindsay contemptuously interrupted her with scornful laughter; then, scowling ferociously upon her, he swore with a deep oath, 'that, if she would not sign those instruments, he would do it with her heart's blood, and cast her into the lake to feed the fishes.' Full well did the defenceless woman know how capable he was of performing his threat, having seen his rapier reeking with human blood shed in her presence, when he assisted at the butchery of her unfortunate secretary. The ink was scarcely dry of her royal signature to the remission she had granted to him for that outrage. But, reckless of the fact that he owed his life, his forfeit lands, yea, the very power of injuring her, to her generous clemency, he thus requited the grace she had, in evil hour for herself, accorded to him. Her heart was too full to continue the unequal contest. 'I am not yet five-and-twenty—she pathetically observed—somewhat more she would have said, but her utterance failed her, and she began to weep with hysterical emotion. Sir Robert Melville, affecting an air of the deepest concern, whispered in her ear an earnest entreaty for her 'to save her life by signing the papers,' reiterating 'that whatever she did would be invalid, because extorted by force.'

"Mary's tears continued to flow, but sign she would not, till Lindsay, infuriated by her resolute resistance, swore 'that, having begun the matter, he would also finish it then and there,' forced the pen into her reluctant hand, and, according to the popular version of this scene of lawless violence, grasped her arm in the struggle so rudely, as to leave the prints of his mail-clad fingers visibly impressed. In an access of pain and terror, with streaming eyes and averted head, she affixed her regal signature to the three deeds, without once looking upon them. Sir Walter Scott alludes to Lindsay's barbarous treatment of his hapless Queen in these nervous lines:—

'And haggard Lindsay's iron eye,
That saw fair Mary weep in vain.'

"George Douglas, the youngest son of the evil lady of Lochleven, being present, indignantly remonstrated with his savage brother-in-law, Lindsay, for his misconduct; and though hitherto employed as one of the persons whose office it was to keep guard over her, he became from that hour the most devoted of her friends and champions, and the contriver of her escape. His elder brother, Sir William Douglas, the castellan, absolutely refused to be present, entered a protest against the wrong that had been perpetrated under his roof, and besought the Queen to give him a letter of exoneration, certifying that he had nothing to do with it, and that it was against his consent, which letter she gave him."

A representation of this scene, designed by Mr. Gourley Steel, forms the vignette to the present volume. The frontispiece is a portrait of Darnley, copied by the same artist from Virtue's engraving of the original painting, formerly in the possession of Darnley's mother, Margaret, Countess of Lennox. A facsimile is also given of the intercepted letter to Queen Mary from the Countess of Lennox, traced from the inedited holograph in Her Majesty's State Paper Office.

As we have formerly charged Miss Strickland with habitual partiality and occasional misrepresentation in her biography of Mary Stuart, it is only fair to say that in the discussion of the debated questions connected with Darnley's murder, she has displayed much candour of statement as well as ability

of argument, and that we are quiet satisfied with her proofs of the queen's innocence of any knowledge of this crime. There are few readers who will not also be satisfied that the letters produced by Morton, as written by the Queen to Bothwell, which even Dr. Robertson believed to be genuine, were forgeries. We may add that, although the deed was foul, the country was well rid of Darnley, who was the tool of the Papists for the suppression of the reformed faith. The correspondence of Father Edmonds with Cardinal Laurea, testifies that all the hopes of the Church of Rome in Scotland were annihilated with Darnley. Miss Strickland, in referring to the letters printed from the Archives di Medicis by Prince Labanoff, says, "It is plain that very formidable intrigues for the suppression of the Protestant worship in Scotland had been secretly going on," and other circumstances are alluded to, which, "while they must to every rational person exonerate the Queen from the slightest complicity in his cutting off, afford full presumption that a dreadful religious war, both in Scotland and England, was averted by that event."

The Life of Nicholas I., Emperor of Russia. With a Short Account of Russia and the Russians. By F. Mayne. Longman and Co.

THIS volume has little novelty of information, its matter having been collected from well-known sources, and prepared for the pages of a popular periodical. As now reprinted, with additions, it forms a book of interesting reading, and may be useful for reference. The best authorities have been consulted in making the compilation, and the reader will here find information for which he might otherwise have to search through many scattered volumes. In giving the biography of Nicholas I., the author writes a sketch of the history of Russia during the last thirty years. The narrative is brought down to the latest events of the present war, down to the date of the battle of Inkerman. We give some extracts from the biographical part of the book. The person and character of Nicholas are thus described:—

"The Czar is now fifty-seven years of age; in person, tall and commanding, being about six feet two inches in height, stout and well made, but rather inclined to corpulency; as yet, however, this is kept within due bounds by tight lacing, said to be very injurious to his personal health. His shoulders and chest are broad and full, his limbs clean and well made, and his hands and feet small and finely formed. The emperor has a Grecian profile, a high but receding forehead, that and the nose being in one grand line; the eyes finely lined, clear, large, and blue; the mouth delicately cut, with good teeth and a prominent chin; the face is a large one, and his whole air military. In looking more closely at him, his countenance is said to be deceptive, inasmuch as the eyes and mouth have a different expression; the former being indeed always fierce and inflexible, even though the latter smiles. His eyes are said to search out every one, while none can confront them. As a young man, the Czar was cold and stern and dignified, even with his youthful companions; and he still carries about with him the same character and the same manners wherever he goes and with whomsoever he associates. He is unbending to all, either in his public or domestic intercourse, excepting to the Empress, to whom he is said to be sincerely attached."

Passages are then cited from the works of Dr. Michelsen, the Marquis de Custine, and M. Golovin, all of whom give a most unfavourable

impression of the Czar's personal character. His affability, especially to English strangers, appears to have been prompted by policy, and other public exhibitions of a pleasing appearance are the result of the same skilful duplicity. The reverence of the people towards him is easily understood when we read the following extracts from the catechism taught in the Russian schools, the Czar being represented as "The Vicegerent and Minister of God to execute the Divine commands":—

"Q. How is the authority of the Emperor to be considered in reference to the spirit of Christianity?"

"A. As proceeding immediately from God.

"Q. What duties does religion teach us, the humble subjects of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to practise towards him?"

"A. Worship, obedience, fidelity, the payment of taxes, service, love, and prayer, the whole being comprised in the words worship and service.

"Q. Wherein does this worship consist, and how should it be manifested?"

"A. By the most unqualified reverence in words, gestures, demeanour, thoughts, and actions.

"Q. What kind of obedience do we owe him?"

"A. An entire passive and unbounded obedience in every point of view.

"Q. How are irreverence and infidelity to the Emperor to be considered in reference to God?"

"A. As the most heinous sin, and the most frightful criminality."

Many anecdotes are related on the authority of Custine, Cole, and other writers, which prove that Nicholas is subject to the insanity which afflicted the Imperial family. He has always shown, however, the utmost sagacity and skill in carrying out the traditional schemes of aggrandizement bequeathed to him as the head of the Russian Empire:—

"The one overwhelming feature of the Czar's character is ambition. To be a great Russian emperor, and to make Russia the chief empire in the world, seems to have been his aim from the moment he mounted the throne, even if it was not the dream of his life from a still earlier period. The partition of Poland with others, his amenities to Austria, the assistance he rendered that state during the civil war in Hungary, were all so many present self-denials to smooth the way for the future conquest of the land on which he had set his heart,—Turkey. For long years, as witnessed by the diplomatic correspondence lately published, has he determined on possessing himself of the keys of the Empire of the East, which, he thinks, and probably truly, added to his mighty northern possessions, would give him supreme dominion throughout the world. Very crafty, deep-laid, and sagacious have been his plans; but the British feeling of protecting the weak, and the far-sighted policy of the Emperor of the French, have unexpectedly come in his way."

The following notice is given of the family of the Czar:—

"If the Marquis de Custine and other travellers in Russia can say little in favour of the Czar himself, yet all unite in describing the elegance, beauty, and goodness of heart of the Czarina. Though it is fifteen years since the Marquis de Custine described her as thoroughly worn out, she is still alive. * * * She is devotedly attached to her husband and family, and her long illness even is said to have been greatly occasioned by the mental anxiety she underwent at the period of the Czar's accession to the throne, ever since which she has been subject to a severe nervous affection.

"There is no doubt that but for the Czarina the Czar would be even more impetuous, overbearing, and cruel than he is.

"The Czarovitch, the Emperor's eldest son, Alexander, is reported to be amiable and popular. The Marquis de Custine, even at the early age to which this prince had attained during his visit,

gave a good report of him as to talents, manners, and personal appearance.

"The countenance of the Grand Duke Alexander, the Emperor's son, is expressive of goodness, his walk is graceful, buoyant, and noble—he is truly a prince; he appears modest, without timidity, which makes one at ease with him."

"A more recent traveller reports:—

"The heir to the throne inherits his father's majestic person, and somewhat of the regularity of his face, but with the utter absence of the Emperor's unsympathising grandeur. On the contrary, the son has a face of much sentiment and feeling; the lips full, the eyelids pensive; more of kindness than of character in his expression."

"He is thirty-four years of age, and has married the sister of the present Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt, a family which, like that of Wurtemberg, has frequently formed alliance with the Romanoffs, the Holstein Gottorps, and the Hohenzollerns of Prussia. He is now appointed commander-in-chief of the reserve of the Guards in Warsaw.

"Many hints have been given of late, that the Czarovitch does not approve of the present conduct of his father, or sympathise in his desire of encroachment on foreign states; his own feelings and policy being more in accordance with that of his uncle the late Emperor.

"The Grand Duke Constantine, born in 1827, is the second son of the Czar. He was named probably by his father, as was his uncle the Viceroy of Poland by the Empress Catherine, with a view to his sitting on the throne of Constantinople. He is said to be more ambitious, more designing, and more tyrannical than his elder brother; his character being violent, like that of his uncle Constantine, and cold and politic, like that of his father. In short, he seems, far more than his elder brother, the legitimate successor of the half-barbarian Peter, the insane Paul, and the vehement Nicholas. He married, in 1844, Alexandra, daughter of the Prince of Saxe Altenburg. His present appointment is High Admiral of Russia; but he is kept by his father's side. Many think that this is with the view of his superseding his eldest brother in the throne, as did his father.

"The third son of the reigning Czar, the Grand Duke Michael, is more like his father in person and character than either of his elder brothers, being handsome, wary, cold, and tyrannical. He was born in 1831.

"The fourth son, the Grand Duke Nicholas, is a year younger than Michael. These two Princes are appointed to command in the armies of the South. They were publicly blessed by their father on the 23rd of October, at a review of the Imperial Guard, when the Czar, his sons, and the whole 30,000 Guards knelt to implore the blessing of the Almighty. Can we think that this display of piety is genuine in one who otherwise acts so impiously?"

"The Czar's eldest daughter, Maria, a very beautiful woman, was married in 1839 to Maximilian, Duke of Leuchtenberg, who died in 1852.

"It is said that the Duke during his lifetime did not enjoy the splendid prison in which by his marriage he had incarcerated himself, nor did he willingly submit to the domestic tyranny of his father-in-law. This produced many disagreements, and he was continually under arrest for persisting in the freedom of appearing in his royal wife's boudoir in his dressing gown, for smoking in her presence, or for buttoning his military coat otherwise than according to the Emperor's regulations. So that not even the mutual affection between him and his wife prevented him from congratulating the Duke de Bordeaux, when a proposition for his marrying another of the daughters of Russia was broken off, that he had 'escaped the cage in which he himself was enclosed.'

"The widowed Duchess of Leuchtenberg visited England last year, and was probably seen by many of our readers.

"Olga, the second daughter of the Emperor, born in 1822, is said to be the most beautiful of this strikingly handsome family. She has suffered much from ill-health, and is still very delicate.

She married, in 1846, the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg.

"The fourth daughter, Alexandra, born in 1824, is married to Prince Frederic of Hesse. She died in 1851, to the intense grief of her parents. She was the youngest and best beloved.

"All the Emperor's brothers are now dead. That the Emperor Alexander was the most amiable, the most benevolent, the most civilized—in a word, the most Christian,—there is little doubt.

"Of the Grand Duke Constantine we have already had occasion to speak elsewhere as violent and ungovernable in his temper, even to insanity. When Viceroy in Poland, the cruelties exercised by his command towards the unhappy Poles were great beyond description. He died of the cholera in 1831.

"The Grand Duke Michael, who was born during the brief reign of his father Paul, had in consequence the largest private fortune of any of his family. He is said to have resembled the Emperor Alexander in his disposition more than either of his other brothers. To his bravery Nicholas very much owed the successful termination of the conspiracy which attended the commencement of his reign. He married Helen, Princess of Wurtemberg, and died in 1849, leaving a widow and three daughters, but no sons. These daughters were brought up by their mother in great retirement; the eldest, Catharine, married in 1851, George, Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz; and the second, Elizabeth Michaelowna, married Adolph of Warsaw. We find thus, that by means of royal marriages the Czar has connected himself with almost all the principal reigning families in the continent of Europe. His sister is widow of the late William II. of Holland, and he himself brother-in-law to the King of Prussia."

The concluding chapters of the work contain descriptions of the political power of Russia, and the social condition of its people, with brief notices of the laws, customs, and institutions of the country. Separate chapters are allotted to descriptions of Sebastopol, the fortresses in the Baltic, and an account of the military and naval resources of Russia.

Charles Random; or, Lunatics at Large.

By Thomas White. Longman and Co. *Oakleigh Mascott.* A Novel. By L. Howe. Hurst and Blackett.

Mary Ellis; or, Life and its Mistakes. By A. Probrer. Hope and Co.

Philip Lancaster. By Maria Norris, author of 'Life and Times of Madame de Staël.' Saunders and Otley.

THE term 'good,' as applied to a novel, is as vague as the use of the epithet in most other matters. A book may be good neither for mental food nor for mental discipline, yet may be pronounced very good so far as mere entertainment is concerned. Hence it sometimes happens that our judgment as critics does not correspond with our enjoyment as readers. The most commendable books are not always the most readable, and we are apt to turn from pages of faultless propriety to others less respectable but more animated and amusing. *Video meliora, proboque, deteriora sequor*, has been the unsaid sigh of many a reader, and perhaps of many a critic. Looking at the novels at the head of the present article in this light, the worst of the four is likely to have the greatest number of readers. 'Charles Random' is a book full of outrageous improbabilities, and giving constant offence by the exaggerations both of incident and of language, yet the story being compact and rapidly told, it cannot fail to gain the attention. 'Oakleigh Mascott' is also a story of considerable vivacity of manner, and will

therefore be read with interest, though slight in construction and somewhat commonplace in matter. We fear that 'Mary Ellis,' though excellent both in its moral tone and in its literary style, will be found rather heavy reading by those for whom its lessons on 'Life and its Mistakes' would be the most useful. But we commend 'Mary Ellis' as a safe and instructive novel. The same must be said, as to the story of 'Philip Lancaster,' though the ordinary matter is relieved here by occasional pages of a stamp different from what appears in the common run of novels. Such we find in the introductory chapters, where many interesting historical notices are introduced, in speaking of the ancestry of the hero of the tale, and in such passages as the following, describing the entrance of a poor scholar upon a literary career in London:—

"His father, my dear, was a hard-working and excellent clergyman, one of those men who are at once the glory and disgrace of the Church of England; her glory, for they beam like burning and shining lights in almost every village and hamlet in the kingdom; her disgrace, for their attendance at her altar is miserably ill-paid, and, after a life of hard service, they can leave their families nothing but the remembrance of their virtues: a poor subsistence, Sophia, in a world like ours. I believe Walter's father had been incumbent of the little Yorkshire parish, where he died, for some eight-and-forty years; labouring, so far as I learn, in and out of season, amid rain, hail, snow, or sunshine, as it happened; but always labouring, especially among the poor and destitute of his flock; a humble, pious, useful, parish priest, with no flowers of eloquence, no interest at court, no lordling pupil, of course preference came not to him; nor did he, I believe, look for it. His circumstances had not allowed him to marry in early life, and, therefore, he was growing an old man by the time Walter was sent to Oxford; for the father, aided by such friends as he had, economised and scraped together sufficient money to send his son to the university where himself had been brought up.

"Walter, knowing the poor state of his father's fortunes, toiled incessantly at his books, and, indeed, by sitting constantly over them, brought on the muscular contraction, that ended in a confirmed stoop. Had he worn glasses, he might have avoided this; but it never occurred to him to accommodate his near sight in that way; he did not adopt those helps you now see him wear until years afterwards. He worked on, day and night, scarcely allowing himself time to eat and sleep, anxiously seeking to antedate the period when he should be able to support himself, and assist his father, who had an invalid wife, and three or four daughters, dependent on him.

"In the midst of Walter's efforts, his father died. Linley had already distinguished himself among his tutors, and when he informed them that imperative necessity obliged him to quit the university, several gentlemen, high in authority, offered him such assistance as enabled him to remain long enough to pass the necessary examinations, and take his bachelor's degree. Thus armed, he was to go into the church, and his father's old patron, as well as his college teachers, looked kindly on him. These, indeed, were all the friends he had; Linley's honesty had a severe trial, and stood it nobly, my dear. Honesty compelled him to go to his Yorkshire home, and confide to his mother and sisters that certain doubts had long disturbed his mind. For my own part, Sophia, I ascribe these to nervous disorder, brought on by over study. Linley blamed himself for them; yet decided, that while entertaining them, he could not presume to undertake the sacred functions for which he had been destined. After a brief period of severe mental conflict, he renounced his idea of entering the church, and with this idea renounced all his friends. He had to endure not only the reproaches of his own conscience concerning these doubts, but the

lamentations of a mother and sisters very dear to him. Their little stock of money was almost exhausted, and they had only Walter to look to for more. Thus pressed by necessity, he came to London to seek suitable employment.

"One winter evening, about ten years ago, Sophia, I sat in my parlour in Paternoster-row, (I lived there then, you know,) my master's shop was shut up, and I was just reading quietly by myself, when a knock at the door disturbed me.

"Where was my aunt, sir?"

"Your aunt? Oh, your aunt did not like Paternoster-row; she and Charlotte were at Hampstead, with my mother-in-law. The servant informed me that a young gentleman, evidently very wet and tired, wished to speak to me. I desired her to show him in. I saw in a moment, notwithstanding his travel-stained dress, that he was a gentleman, in the best sense of the word, and I desired him to take a seat.

"I am come," he said, smiling faintly, 'on a rather hopeless errand, and I have disturbed you after your hours of business.'

"What matters that?" I said. I saw that he was almost exhausted, and I rang the bell for hot water, while I got some spirits and sugar from the cupboard by the fireplace. I told Mary to bring some hot water and a lemon, so that my friend and I might take a glass of punch together, and I also bade her prepare a bed for the gentleman. By this time he was so faint as to be almost unconscious.

"I mixed the punch, not being over particular regarding the flavour, for I was in a hurry. After I had poured some down his throat, and pulled off his wet, worn boots, I drew his chair to the fire, and had the satisfaction to see him recovering.

"You are better now?" I said.

"Oh, yes," he answered; 'I have been out in the cold and wet all day, and not being very hardy, I suffer for it. I am come—'

"Yes, yes," interrupted I; 'I see you are. When we have supped you shall tell me the rest.'

"I was only a young clerk then, Sophia; but I managed to have a jolly supper, notwithstanding. I do not remember what we had beside; but I know there were pork-chops, because Walter has often reminded me of them, and told me he was half-finished, and yet afraid to eat, lest his ravenous appetite disgusted me. When he had eaten he was revived, and then he told me the story I have told you, adding that he had travelled from Yorkshire to London in the carrier's wagon to save expense, and had had his pocket picked of thirty shillings, all the money he had remaining after paying the charges of his journey. He said he had been that day into all kinds of warehouses to ask for employment, but had been unable to obtain any. Without money, without food, he had knocked at my door as a kind of last resort. He slept in my one spare bed (for the principal part of the house was let off), and in the morning I named the circumstances to my employers. They gave him something to do for a time, and gradually he made himself known to the booksellers. He is a clever fellow, you know, and has always kept himself by means of his pen; not himself, alone, either: for years, almost all his earnings went into Yorkshire. Now his old mother is dead, and two of his sisters are married; the remaining two he has enabled to commence a respectable boarding-school. I loved the man from the first, because he would not sell his conscience for bread. I have always been very glad I befriended him, and this I may well be, without any generosity, for he has repaid me my little assistance a thousand-fold.

"When first I knew him, I was struggling to enlarge a very narrow education; he held me out a helping hand. But for Walter Linley, I might never have been qualified to take the head of the house where I was clerk when first he rang at my door. Poor Walter! I shall never forget how cold, and wet, and worn he was, when first I looked upon him. It was a cold, bitter, winter's night. I have never seen a poor scholar since without crying 'God help him!' and helping him

myself, too, if I could. Is that clock striking eleven, my child? Yes, and your eyes are still bright as the stars. Ring for the lamps, my dear. It is quite time you went to bed. Good night, and do not fret about anything. I declare it has done me good to talk to you."

A large part of the story is occupied with descriptions and illustrations of the tenets and proceedings of the various ecclesiastical parties into which Christians are divided in England,—not a very inviting or satisfactory subject either to contemplate or to write about, but in which there will always be many who take a lively interest. The author is most at home, or at least is most successful, in dealing with themes, the knowledge of which she derives from books. Even the foregoing extract may be only a dilution of the famous scene of Cave and Johnson at St. John's Gate. Greater experience of life than the author possesses is necessary for preparing a novel of striking or sustained interest.

In 'Oakleigh Mascott' there are some good sketches of military life in India.

NOTICES.

The Book of the Garden. Vol. II. By Charles M'Intosh, F.R.P.S. Blackwood and Sons.

IN this ponderous volume, comprising 850 closely printed pages, illustrated with 279 wood engravings, Mr. M'Intosh treats of the culture of fruits, vegetables, flowering plants, and ornamental trees and shrubs, not arranged with respect to season, but according to their natural affinity; and the reader has therefore the advantage of studying the distinct operations by themselves, in succession, of the general kitchen garden, the hardy fruit garden, the forcing garden, and the flower garden, including plant houses and pleasure grounds. The London market-gardeners, says the author, are the best culinary gardeners in the world, and brief details are given of their practices. Little or nothing has been published of London market-garden culture since the days of Abercrombie, now nearly a century past, and very important is the matured information given by Mr. M'Intosh on the best methods of propagation, of taking up and packing trees, and of getting rid of diseases, insects, and other enemies. Most precious, indeed, in all its details, is this elaborate volume on the cultural department of this famed 'Book of the Garden.'

The Story of the Peasant-boy Philosopher; or, A Child Gathering Pebbles on the Sea-shore. By Henry Mayhew, author of 'London Labour and the London Poor.' Bogue.

MR. MAYHEW professes to found his story on the early life of Ferguson, the shepherd-boy astronomer, but little more than the idea of the work is suggested from that source. The design is to convey instruction on a variety of subjects, by telling how a poor lad, Owen Evans, the son of a Welsh cottager, became acquainted with the principles of natural science. The story is told in a way likely to be most attractive to young people, and from beginning to end it is full of instructive and suggestive information. Mr. Mayhew's views on education are sensible and just. He says that there is too often a desire to store the memory with facts, instead of strengthening the faculties by proper exercise, the result being that "university prize-men are as remarkable for the enormous capacity and inactivity of their minds, as the competitors at Baker-street are for those of their bodies,—the one gorged with learning, the other with oil-cake, but each alike ponderous and powerless, and both having little or no health or vigour in them." The true business of education is, as the meaning of the word itself implies, the drawing out and enlarging of the faculties. How this may be done in relation to the objects of physical science is well shown in the story of the 'Peasant-boy Philosopher,' which is a first-rate educational book for young people. The subjects are much the same as those embraced in the well-known scientific dia-

logues of Joyce, and they are presented in a form almost as attractive as the story of 'Sandford and Merton.' There are numerous pictures and illustrative diagrams.

Studies from History. By the Rev. W. H. Rule. Vol. I. *Richard I., and the Third Crusade. Mohammed II., and the Fall of the Greek Empire.* Mason.

THE design of these studies is to present sketches of some of the most memorable events and remarkable characters in history, especially such as bear upon the progress of Christian civilization in Europe. The Third Crusade and the Fall of the Greek Empire are the subjects in the present volume. A second series of studies will present the Life and Times of Savonarola and of Melancthon. Mr. Rule does not profess to do more than compile from well-known authorities, but in this he does useful service to a large class of readers who may not have access to original sources of information. In his style Mr. Rule is unfortunately diffuse and prolix, which must check the popularity of books excellent in their plan and interesting in their subjects. In the life of Richard, the annals of Roger de Hoveden are closely followed, notices being added from John of Brompton, Matilda of Westminster, and other Chroniclers. To the life of Mohammed II. is prefixed a portrait, copied from an original pen and ink drawing of Gentil Bellini, preserved in the print-room of the British Museum. Bellini was sent expressly to Constantinople from Venice to make a painting of the Sultan, and this is said to be the original sketch, from which, for the first time, a copy is here published.

Memoirs of the Court of England during the Reign of the Stuarts. By John Hengrave Jesso. New edition, revised. Vol. I. Bentley.

WITH this re-issue of Mr. Jesso's work, to be completed in three volumes, is commenced a new series of "monthly volumes of standard and popular modern literature." Kaye's 'History of the War in Afghanistan,' Wright's 'England under the House of Hanover,' 'Horace Walpole's Letters,' Mignet's 'Life of Mary Queen of Scots,' Thiers's 'History of the French Revolution,' and other works of similar value and interest, are promised in the series, the volumes of which are remarkable for typography and other external advantages, at a price that will bring the works within the reach of many new readers. In this spirited and liberal literary undertaking we trust that the publishers will meet with success, so as to encourage the diffusion of cheap and good books such as are promised in this series.

SUMMARY.

AMONG the pictorial gift-books of the season, the chief place belongs to the *Illustrated Edition of Cooper's Task* (Nisbet and Co.) The designs are by Birket Foster, who has fully entered into the spirit of his work. The execution of the woodcuts by Evans, and the printing of the whole volume, are of unusual excellence. It is altogether a beautiful work, and one of perennial value.

Under the title of *Tit for Tat; or, American Pinings of English Humanity*, by a Lady from Orleans, U.S. (Clarke and Beeton), an American writer takes revenge for "the insult offered to the proprietors of the Southern States, by the manner in which Mrs. Beecher Stowe and her vaunted 'Uncle Tom' were received in England." The writer shows in this book of about 350 closely printed pages, that children are bought and sold as chimney-sweepers in England for a dollar and fifty cents a-head. Dreadful tales of oppression and murder are told, "all this," it is said, "being done in England in 1854; yes, by these very hypocritical Britishers who wept a Mississippi of their tears over a highly-wrought picture of our institutions, protected as they are, and in accordance as they are with the laws of our land." Instead of being angry at the exposure of social evils in England, as the Americans are when their 'institutions' are criticized, we feel grateful to a

foreigner for calling attention to a matter in which it seems there is still need for magisterial, if not for legislative interference for the protection of helpless children. Had the book been written in better spirit, it would have had more effect upon English readers.

A new edition, much enlarged, appears of an illustrated volume of poetry, *Sunday Afternoon; or, Questions, Pictures, and Poems on the Old Testament Scriptures*, by E. H. (Bagster and Sons). There are numerous poetical narratives and descriptions, and steel engravings in outline of subjects likely to be instructive and interesting to the young. Questions, adapted to the poems, render the work more useful for parents and teachers.

In Parts VI. and VII. of *The Theory and Practice of Landscape Painting in Water Colours*, by George Barnard, Professor of Drawing at Rugby School (W. S. Orr and Co.), this valuable treatise is completed. It will form a most beautiful as well as useful volume, with its numerous illustrations printed in colours by the chromatic process.

A fourth edition is published (Routledge and Co.) of the little treatise, by the Rev. Robert Aris Willmott, on *The Pleasures, Objects, and Advantages of Literature*, a pleasantly written miscellany of literary facts and reflections.

An historical tale. *Anne Boleyn; or, the Sufferings of the Religious Houses* (Saunders and Otley), presents some striking scenes and incidents of that period of English history. In the Parlour Library (Hodgson), the last volume contains a capital sketch of prairie life, *The Hunters' Feast; or, Conversations around the Camp Fire*, by Captain Mayne Reid, who combines in his stories stirring adventures with pleasant notices of natural scenery and natural history. In the Select Library of Fiction (Chapman and Hall), a cheap edition is issued of *Ruth*, by the author of 'Mary Barton.'

On the subject of the war many pamphlets are published, among which are the speech of the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert on the *Conduct of the War*, delivered in the House of Commons, in the debate of December 12; also the speech of Mr. Layard on the same subject (Murray). *A Knouting for the Czar*, being some words on the battles of Inkerman, Balaklava, and Alma, by a Soldier (Wright).

The first number of a new monthly periodical, the *Literary Mailcoach*, driven by Tom Whipcord, Dick Scribbler, guard (Hardwicke), is a miscellany of amusing and smart writing.

A miscellany of short papers in prose and verse appears under the title of *The Head and the Heart*, a Father's Legacy to his Son (Bale), published from a friend's manuscripts by an executor. The publication is good in its matter and its tone, and may be useful to those whom it reaches.

A Manual for the Camp and the Hospital contains short prayers and meditations, drawn up for the use of the army in the Crimea, by the Rev. Daniel Moore, M.A., Carlwall (Kerby and Son).

Part I. of Vol. II. of *Prodromus Faune Zeylanice*, being contributions to the zoology of Ceylon, by E. F. Kelaart, M.D. (Van Voorst), contains descriptions of additional species, and notes on the natural history of the island. The first volume of Dr. Kelaart's book was noticed by us some time since in the 'Literary Gazette.'

A Lecture on the *Peoples of Europe, and the War in the East*, by J. W. Jackson, Esq. (Bailière), discusses subjects of political and of ethnological importance.

A smart Christmas tale of light texture, the pleasantness of which will be intelligible chiefly to Cockney readers, *Merry Sparks for Winter Hearths*, by Fanny Eliza Lacy (Hardwicke).

A Christmas poem, in sonnets, *Christel*, by Cephas (Bell), higher in purpose than happy in performance. The writer says that this attempt may be a prelude to a more pretentious work. We advise him not to publish hastily what may be improved by greater study and experience.

A lecture on *Training in Streets and Schools*, by William Knighton, M.A., author of 'Forest Life in Ceylon,' Lecturer at the Chelsea Training Insti-

tution (Longman), was one of the course delivered at the Educational Exhibition in St. Martin's Hall, and deserves separate publication in a form likely to be widely circulated. It gives an account of normal schools and of the training system, as first established successfully at Glasgow, and now adopted throughout the country.

Remains of the Hon. and Rev. Somerville Hay, Vicar of Netherbury and Beaminster, Dorsetshire, comprising sermons, tracts, and letters, with a memoir, by Thomas J. Graham, M.D. (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) A volume containing memorials of a good man and exemplary Christian minister.

Reprinted from Mr. Patrick Dove's work, 'The Elements of Political Science,' is *An Account of Andrew Yarranton*, the founder of English political economy (Johnstone and Hunter), a very interesting biographical and historical sketch. Two centuries ago, Andrew Yarranton lived and wrote, and many of his sensible and patriotic views and suggestions deserved to be rescued from the oblivion into which they had fallen. The Dutch were then England's greatest rivals, and one of Yarranton's books was entitled 'How to beat the Dutch without Fighting, that being the best and justest Way to subdue our Enemies.'

Part the Second of *History of Christian Churches and Sects*, by the Rev. J. B. Marsden, M.A. (Bentley), confirms the opinion we formed from the commencement of the work. The author displays much candour and impartiality in his statements, as well as accuracy in the information conveyed. Among other lesser articles in the present number are two, by which any reader may test the character of the book, an account of the Scottish Covenanters, and the commencement of an article on the Church of England. To be written by an Episcopalian and Anglican Churchman, the paper on the Covenanters is remarkably fair, and even generously liberal.

In the edition of Bentley's 'Standard Novels' (Bentley), is published *Wyandotté; or, the Huttet Knoll*, by Mr. Fenimore Cooper, one of his stories of American Indian life.

An acting edition of *Punch and Judy, and their little dog Toby* (H. Ingram and Co.), with illustrations and descriptive verses, is intended to supply an authentic version of this popular drama as performed *sub dio* in the streets of London.

The annual publication of *Who's Who*, for 1855 (Bailey Brothers), edited by C. H. Oakes, M.A., contains the usual lists of names of title, official, or otherwise distinguished persons, with obituary for 1854, and other information.

Volume Second of *The Chemistry of Common Life*, by J. F. W. Johnston, F.R.S. (Blackwood), contains the latter portion of a series of popular papers, some of which we have noticed as they appeared in successive parts, now collected into a goodly work of two volumes, full of instructive and entertaining knowledge, as to the chief objects used as articles of food, or as indulgences of luxury by man.

In Gleig's 'School Series' (Longman and Co.), *A Treatise on Mechanics and the Steam Engine*, by T. Tate, late the Mathematical Professor at Battersea Training College. It is a plain and short elementary manual for the use of beginners.

In the 'Traveller's Library,' No. 73 (Longman and Co.), *Voyages and Discoveries in the Arctic Regions*, edited by F. Mayne. The greater portion of the narrative has already appeared in the pages of a periodical, and are here reprinted with two additional chapters, giving an account of the most recent events of arctic enterprise.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ainsworth and Yeats's Algebra, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s.
Augustine the Happy Child, crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Bateman's (C. H.) Lamp of Love, 2nd series, 32mo, cl., 1s. 6d.
Blakie's Philosophy of Sectarianism in the U.S., 6s. 6d.
Bode's Ballads, 2nd edition, square, cloth, 7s.
Chambers's Educational Course: Mathematics, 1 vol., 6s. 6d.
Churchman's Year Book for 1855, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
Cornwell and Fitch's Science of Arithmetic, 12mo, cl., 4s. 6d.
Castello's Anne of Brittany, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
Ellerman's (C. F.) Anglo-Belgian Ballads, post 8vo, cl., 7s. 6d.

Fitzallan Catechist, &c., 1 vol., 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Forbes's Literary Papers, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
 Gilparzer's Sappho, crown 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Gleig's Series: Tate's Mechanics and Steam-engine, 18mo, 1s.
 Household Narrative, royal 8vo, cloth, 1854, 3s.
 Idle's (C.) Hints on Shooting, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Jones's (W. H.) *Blanche de Bourbon*, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Kennaway's Consolation, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Lucy; or, the Housemaid, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
 Maclean's (J.) Sermons on Christian Life, 8vo, cl., 10s. 6d.
 May's Swedish Grammar, 3rd edition, 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Montgomery's Law of Kindness, new edition, 2l. 8vo, 2s. 6d.
 (R.) God and Man, post 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Morgan's (Rev. J.) Exposition of the 51st Psalm, 12mo, 3s.
 Mullen's (Rev. J.) Missions in South India, 8vo, cloth, 4s.
 Parley's Tales about Animals, square, cloth, new edit., 6s.
 Peasant Life and Political Clubs, post 8vo, boards, 2s.
 Russian Life in the Caucasus, post 8vo, boards, 2s.
 Spectorator, (The) royal 8vo, cloth, plates, 9s.
 Symon's (E. W.) Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, 12mo, cl., 6s.
 Taylor's (B.) Life and Landscapes, 2nd ed., 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Walker's Pronouncing Dictionary, new edit., 12mo, cl., 5s.
 Westwood's Butterflies, 8vo, cloth, 15s.
 White's Landmarks of the History of England, 12mo, 1s. 6d.

IMPLORE PACEM.

Lowly, lowly, lying lowly,
 Where the willow weeps,
 One who makes remembrance holy
 In her beauty sleeps,
 Music once was in the river,
 Joy in wood and field,
 Gone are they, and gone for ever,
 Earth no charm can yield.
 Like a star the cloud o'er-shadeth,
 Did we lose her ray,
 Like a flower that blooms and fadeth,
 Faded she away;
 None remember, none come hither,
 Mourning o'er her doom,
 None save one, whose heart is with her,
 In her silent tomb.

Wild birds seek the willow near her,
 Singing as of yore,
 She, whose voice was sweeter, dearer,
 Sings to me no more.
 Every charm was thrown about her
 That could life adorn;
 Now the sun is dark without her,
 And the world forlorn.

Something blest to her was given,
 Some diviner birth;
 There's an angel more in heaven,
 And one miss'd from earth.
 Every hope my heart refuseth,
 Thinking but of one!
 Ah, we know not what life loseth
 'Till the loved are gone.

CHARLES SWAIN.

SANDY McCALLUM.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

16, Belgrave-square, Jan. 10, 1855.

SIR,—Your respect for the men (often too poor) who are the discoverers of those fossil remains whereby geologists and paleontologists are enabled to arrive at their true conclusions, will induce you, I doubt not, to rejoice in the opportunity of doing an act of charity by the insertion of these few lines, destined to call the attention of your readers to a case of real distress.

The individual who bore the name of Sandy (Alexander) McCallum, was a humorous, original character, well known in his native town of Girvan, Ayrshire, for his ingenuity exhibited in various callings. As a fisherman he had explored the steep of Ailsa Crag, and all the rocks on the mainland; whilst to the trades of weaver, mechanic, &c., he added the politer art of music, and became a popular performer on his violin at many merry meetings in and around Girvan.

Sandy was withal a sober, reflective fellow, who was always meditating some new discovery of his own. Thus, wholly untutored and remote from all professors and geologists, he discovered many fossil organic remains in the rocks around his native place; Mr. J. Carrick Moore, Professors J. Nicol,

Harkness, and Wyville Thomson, as well as myself, having profited by his researches.

When I was exploring the coast of Ayrshire in 1850, accompanied by Professor J. Nicol, poor Sandy was our daily and most instructive companion—enlivening his stony exploits with many a racy anecdote, worthy of being chronicled by a Walter Scott.

I was, above all, pleased in my own department with the persevering skill he displayed in extracting huge and long orthoceratites, and other fossils, from very hard slaty rocks, often much altered by intrusive agency. In this way, and by spending months in rocky ravines, did he amass not only the Silurian remains described by me, whether in the 'Quarterly Journal Geol. Soc.,' or in the recent work, 'Siluria,' but also all the best Silurian fossils which exist in the Museum of Practical Geology.

Alas, poor Sandy was suddenly carried off last month by an attack of cholera, leaving a widow and five children in an entirely destitute condition. To relieve in some measure the distressed family, a subscription is opened at the Rooms of the Geological Society, where the smallest donations, even a few shillings will be thankfully received.—Your obedient servant, RODERICK I. MURCHISON.

P.S.—My friend, Professor Sedgwick, has with his usual good-heartedness subscribed a sovereign, although he was unacquainted with Sandy's merits, and that the most of his colleagues only contribute a crown.

* * If a list of subscribers in the above interesting case be sent to us, we shall be happy to give it further publicity.

FRAUDS ON THE FAIRIES.

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK, as all the world ought to know, is publishing an edition of our familiar household Fairy Tales, not only illustrated with his own sparkling and fairy-like etchings, but edited by his accommodating and sympathetic pen. George Cruikshank has a heart of milk—a fountain ever flowing with benignity—and on the grounds that these Fairy Tales are no man's copyright, but that every one is free to relate them according to his own taste and views, he has resolved on purging the series from what he deems impurities. No personage in any of George Cruikshank's edition of the Fairy Tales may drink wine, gamble, thieve, or tell fibs. Jack may no longer deceive the Giant by wearing a sham stomach, the Count's children may no longer have their throats cut without remorse, Hop-o'-my-Thumb may no longer run away with the Ogre's 'money and valuables,' and the marriage of Cinderella may no more be celebrated by the fountains in the courtyard running with "strong drink."

Charles Dickens, a jovial, but not intemperate friend to literature, has remonstrated with the great caricaturist on the mildness of his text, and declares it to be a fraud on the Fairies. "We entertain a very great tenderness," says the gentle-hearted author of little Nell, "for the fairy literature of our childhood. What enchanted us then, and is captivating a million of young fancies now, has, at the same blessed time of life, enchanted vast hosts of men and women who have done their long day's work, and laid their grey heads down to rest. It would be hard to estimate the amount of gentleness and mercy that has made its way among us through these slight channels. Forbearance, courtesy, consideration for the poor and aged, kind treatment of animals, the love of nature, abhorrence of tyranny and brute force—many such good things have been first nourished in the child's heart by this powerful aid. It has greatly helped to keep us, in some sense, ever young, by preserving through our worldly ways one slender track not overgrown with weeds, where we may walk with children, sharing their delights. In an utilitarian age, of all other times, it is a matter of grave importance that fairy tales should be respected. Our English red tape is too magnificently red ever to be employed in the tying up of such trifles, but every one who has considered the subject, knows full well that a

nation without fancy, without some romance, never did, never can, never will, hold a great place under the sun. The theatre, having done its worst to destroy these admirable fictions—and having in a most exemplary manner destroyed itself, its artists, and its audiences, in that perversion of its duty—it becomes doubly important that the little books themselves, nurseries of fancy as they are, should be preserved. To preserve them in their usefulness, they must be as much preserved in their simplicity, and purity, and innocent extravagance, as if they were actual fact. Whosoever alters them to suit his own opinions, whatever they are, is guilty, to our thinking, of an act of presumption, and appropriates to himself what does not belong to him. We have lately observed with pain the intrusion of a Whole Hog of unwieldy dimensions into the fairy flower-garden. The rooting of the animal among the roses would in itself have awakened in us nothing but indignation!"

But the benignant editor does not like being charged with altering the tales of the fairies for the purpose of propagating doctrines of his own, and retorts that had he been altering the text of any standard literary work, the writing of any individual, "then, indeed, you might have raised a hue-and-cry—but to insist upon preserving the entire integrity of a Fairy tale, which has been, and is, constantly altering in the recitals and in the printing of various editions in different countries, and even counties, appears to my little mind, like shearing one of your own 'whole hogs,' where there is 'great cry and little wool.'" And in reference to Mr. Dickens's championship of the Fairy Tales "in their innocence, usefulness, and purity," Mr. Cruikshank continues,—"Look at Miss 'Puss in Boots,' for instance: what is that story but a succession of successful falsehoods—a clever lesson in lying!—a system of imposture rewarded by the greatest worldly advantages! A useful lesson, truly, to be impressed upon the minds of children! Then, as to Master 'Jack the Giant Killer'—that history is little more than a succession of slaughterings and bloodshed. This sort of example cannot be very useful to the children of a Christian and civilized people. Then that pretty little episode of Jack dropping his dinner into a bag suspended under his chin, and pretending to cut his stomach open, and daring and inducing the stupid Giant to do the same feat (which he does to his real stomach), and the shocking and disgusting result thereof is surely neither useful, nor innocent, and as to the purity, why, in the old editions of this tale, there are some parts so gross, that no decent person would reprint them for publication in the present day."

Now, much as we value the motives of Mr. Cruikshank's editorial mildness, we cannot stand by and see these pithy episodes of fairy literature spoiled of their impressive horrors. He may dilute our drinks, but not our books. We have no fear that the rising generation will run about with sham stomachs, to induce the suicide of real ones; and if, in our time, the land should be visited by any such cruel ogres as would have swallowed Jack the Giant Killer, we shall only be too thankful for a like succession of "slaughterings and bloodshed."

In the last Fairy Tale which has appeared, 'Cinderella and the Glass Slipper,' illustrated in a manner truly charming, the editor has had no horrors or petty larceny to deal with, but alas! on coming to the rejoicings at Cinderella's nuptials, we find the fountains of Rhenish wine dried up:—

"The King, who was in the highest flow of spirits, declared that there should be extraordinary grand doings to celebrate this wedding; and, amongst other things, ordered that there should be running 'fountains of wine' in the court-yards of the palace, and also in the streets. Upon which Cinderella's godmother, who had been conversing with the King, begged that his Majesty would not carry out that part of the arrangements.

"'Why not?' said the King; 'it is the custom upon all great festive occasions, and the people would be disappointed were it omitted at a royal wedding.'

"It is true," replied the dwarf, "that the people look for such things, but although there is much boisterous mirth created by the drink around these wine fountains, yet your Majesty is aware that this same drink leads also to quarrels, brutal fights, and violent deaths."

"Well! I fear it is so," the King replied; "but this misconduct and violence is only committed by those who take too much, and not by those who take it in moderation."

"The history of the use of strong drinks," the dwarf said, "is marked on every page by excess, which follows, as a matter of course, from the very nature of their composition, and are always accompanied by ill-health, misery, and crime."

"Well, but," said the King, "what is to be done? are not these things intended by Providence for our use?"

"With all deference to your Majesty," said the dwarf in reply, "most assuredly not; for such is the Power of the Creator, that if it had been necessary for man to take stimulating drinks, the Almighty could have given them to him free from all intoxicating qualities, as he has done with all solids and liquids necessary and fit for the support of man's life; and as he never intended that any man should be intoxicated, and as he knows that all men cannot take these drinks alike, such is his goodness and mercy, that he would have sent them to us without the intoxicating principle; and when people talk of these intoxicating drinks, that do so much deadly mischief, being sent to us by the Almighty, we might as well say that he sends us gunpowder, because man converts certain materials into such a deadly composition. And as to moderation, pardon me, your Majesty, but so long as your Majesty continues to take even half a glass of wine a-day, so long will the drinking customs of society be considered respectable and kept up; and it thus follows, as a necessary consequence, that thousands of your Majesty's subjects will be constantly falling by excess into vice, wretchedness, and crime; and as to people not being able to do without stimulating drinks, I beg your Majesty to look at Cinderella, who never has taken any in all her life, and who never will."

"My dear little lady," exclaimed the King, good-humouredly, "your arguments have convinced me: there shall be no more fountains of wine in my dominions." And he immediately gave orders that all the wine, beer, and spirits, in the place, should be collected together and piled upon the top of a rocky mound in the vicinity of the palace, and made a great bonfire of on the night of the wedding;—which was accordingly done, and a splendid blaze it made!"

This will never do. We cannot allow friend Cruikshank to turn all our wine into water. We wonder how he would emendate the first beginning of miracles in Cana of Galilee.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

MR. G. A'BECKETT has this week published the result of his experience, as Police Magistrate of Southwark, of the effects of the new Beer Bill. "Previous to its coming into operation," Mr. A'Beckett says, "the business of this court was not only considerably greater on Monday than on any other day in the week, but it consisted chiefly of cases of drunkenness, or of assaults, more or less violent, that had been committed under its influence. From the day when the Act came into effect, I have kept an account of the number of charges of Sunday drunkenness which have been brought before me on every Monday on which I have sat; and the result is thirty-seven cases in nineteen days, or a fraction less than two for each Sunday." Similar testimony has been publicly borne by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and by magistrates all over the country. Mr. A'Beckett, after making some remarks on the efficiency of the Bill, adds, "There is little doubt that the best means for the diminution of crime, poverty, and perhaps also disease, are comprised in the prohibition of drunkenness." So strongly is this beginning to be felt, that the proposal to adopt a

measure like the Maine Liquor Law has been made by Mr. Hill, the Recorder of Birmingham. This may not yet be practicable; but the beneficial results of the slight legislative interference hitherto attempted ought to lead to further steps in the same direction. The outcry raised against all such public measures, as interfering with the liberty of Englishmen, has very properly been unheeded. The Americans understand and value personal freedom of action as much as we do, but they submit to public restraint in a matter where unrestricted liberty leads to the most degraded form of slavery. The poet Cowper, gentle though he was, and jealous of English rights and English liberty, yet could exclaim, after describing "the ruinous ebriety that imbrutes the man"—

"O for a law to noose the villain's neck
Who starves his own; who persecutes the blood
He gave them, in his children's veins, and hates
And wrongs the woman he has sworn to love!"

Cowper said it was vain to look to the legislature for any diminution of

"A public pest,
That, like the filth with which the peasant feeds
His hungry acres, stinks, and is of use.
The excise is fattened with the rich result
Of all this riot; and ten thousand casks,
For ever dribbling out their base contents,
Touched by the Midas-finger of the State,
Bleed gold, for ministers to sport away."

But there is more virtue and patriotism in the statesmen of our times, even though some of them, like Lord John Russell, who is partner in a brewery, are personally interested in the subject. A trifling decrease of revenue is not to be mentioned in comparison with the immense diminution of drunkenness and all its attendant evils. Happily, too, it has been proved that what is morally right, is in this matter politically expedient—the repression of intemperance involving decrease of poverty and crime, and of the public rates and expenses with which the country is overburdened. What Mr. A'Beckett calls "the prohibition of drunkenness," extended as far as practicable by law, will be found not only a good act in Christian philanthropy, but a wise measure in financial economy. On questions of social reform like this, the influence of the press ought to be heartily brought to bear. Such subjects might, for instance, be taken up effectively in the journal with which Mr. A'Beckett's literary name was formerly associated. But we are sorry to observe that on this, and on other subjects bearing on social improvement (such as the religious observance of the Sabbath), the conductors of 'Punch' manifest a spirit of impropriety. When a contemporary ventured lately to remark that there are subjects too sacred for jest, the courteous hint was met with violent abuse. Our facetious friend will not lose in public estimation by keeping wit and intellect uniformly on the side of morality and religion.

From Paris we learn with pleasure that there is every indication that the present year will be more important in a literary point of view than the last one. The 'Bibliographie' already contains numerous announcements of new publications. Amongst them we notice the translation of a very long Greek poem on Bacchus, by Count Marcellus; a history of Athens in the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, by Count Laborde, Member of the Institute; a treatise on Gaul three centuries before Christ, by H. Martin, the historian; a history of French literature during the reign of Louis Philippe, by M. Nettement, who is already favourably and widely known as the author of a history of literature under the Restoration; a history of the Directory of the French Republic, by M. de Barante; a second edition of the posthumous works of Condorcet on the art of making calculations with facility; a continuation of the immense 'Theological (Catholic) Encyclopædia,' published by the Abbé Migne; a second edition of the learned *bibliophile* Jacob's *Œuvres Complètes de François Villon*; an edition of the works of the Sieur de Balzac, one of the earliest members of the French Academy; an elaborate treatise on the nature of human society, by the Abbé Mitraud; another volume of the Abbé Guettée's important *History of the French Church*; a huge Dictionary

(2000 pages) of Geography and Statistics, by A. Guibert; a brief but excellent treatise on the wealth and population of France in the eighteenth century, by M. Leonce de Lavergne; a Life (real and imaginary) of the Holy Virgin, according to the old ecclesiastical writers, by Le Meulier; account of a recent pilgrimage to Palestine by Laorty-Hadji; a new Dictionary of Architecture, by M. Viollet-le-Duc, the Government Architect; a reprint for the first time for centuries of the Imitation of Jesus Christ, in the original text; a reprint, by M. Feuille de Couches, of the famous journal of the notable Marquis de Dangeau; a collection for the first time of the letters of Calvin; another and corrected edition of the *Historiettes* of Tallemant des Reaux; a life of Ehleneschlager, the Danish poet, by Le Fevre Deumier; a translation of the complete works of Conscience, the Flemish writer; a translation of Warren's 'Diary of a Physician'; another part of Querard's very curious work, 'Les Supercheries Littéraires Devoilées'; and a history of Switzerland in the eighteenth century, by Monnard. We also see announced new editions of Boileau, La Fontaine, La Bruyère, La Rochefoucauld, Chateaubriand, Delavigne, and other standard authors; as also several translations from English. In addition to all this, new works are in preparation by Guizot, Thiers, Lamartine, Mignet, Thierry, Villemain, and other of the great writers of the day. In light literature likewise we may expect that the present year will be unusually brilliant, owing to the demand which will be created by the crowds of foreigners who will flock to the Exhibition.

We cannot pass without comment the letters of the Marquis of Clanricarde and of Lord Dunkellin that have appeared in the public journals this week. With the political bearings of these extraordinary documents we have no concern; but as literary productions we have read them with surprise and with shame. To find any parallels, we must go back to the days in which authors stooped to pen fulsome dedications to the patrons who despised them for their abject flattery. Lord Clanricarde commences thus his letter to the Russian minister who announced his son's release:—"My Prince, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which His Majesty the Emperor has deigned to have addressed to me, and I now beg your Excellency to submit to His Imperial Majesty the expression of my vivid gratitude, and of the profound sentiment inspired by the benevolent and gracious remembrance which he has thereby shown toward me." Lord Dunkellin improves upon this, by volunteering his opinion that "this act of benevolence and generosity proclaims the act of a really great man;" and by declaring that "words will never sufficiently express all his gratitude for this noble and generous conduct." We are well aware that certain forms of courtesy are required in addressing persons officially exalted; but the extravagant language here employed is beyond all precedent. The letters are unworthy of Englishmen. That the Emperor's release of Lord Dunkellin was entirely an act of benevolence and generosity, and not in the least an act of policy, we are not denying; but the acknowledgment of the favour need not have been made in terms so servile and humiliating. Lieutenant Royer of the *Tiger* was severely taken to task for his plain statement of the kindness with which he was treated by the Czar, when a prisoner in Russia. How is it that *The Times*, after running down a poor lieutenant in the Navy for his honest narrative, has suffered to pass without censure this obsequious epistle of a Peer of the realm? We are not surprised now that Lord Clanricarde was a favourite at the court of St. Petersburg; and if he were sent on an embassy to China, he would make no scruples about the prostrations to which Lords Macartney and Amherst, as representatives of the honour of England, would not stoop.

At the close of the meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers on Tuesday, M. Néron, of Paris, exhibited an ingenious mode of placing detonating caps on the nipple of a rifle or a musket. The

apparatus consisted of a tube containing twenty-two caps, placed parallel with and close beside the barrel, being partially inserted in the stock, and so arranged, that whilst the near end was attached by a pin to the hammer, the further extremity was free to travel in a slot. Its action was very simple, the tube being filled with caps from a reservoir, several of which would occupy but a very small space; the end cover was turned down. On drawing the hammer to half-cock, the tube was drawn forward, until a cap was brought over the nipple, and at full-cock the cap was pressed down upon it. After firing, if any portion of the copper remained attached to the cap, it was removed by a small picker preceding the tube, on its being again drawn forward to repeat the operation. It was evident that by this simple and cheap addition to any firearm much time must be saved in loading, and a great waste of caps must be avoided, whilst about twenty-five per cent. of copper was saved in making the caps—and they were kept dry in the reservoir, instead of being exposed to damp and running the risk of not exploding, as had occurred frequently in action on recent occasions in the Crimea. The system was stated to have obtained the approbation of the highest military authorities in France, and, with the characteristic alacrity of the Government of that country, to be already in process of adaptation to the Minié rifles and to fire-arms of all kinds for the army; it had, only within the last few days, been brought here to lay before the English Government.

A scientific discussion of some importance is being carried on in the columns of the 'Witness' newspaper, between Mr. James Wilson and the editor, Mr. Hugh Miller. In noticing with high praise the letter-press of a pictorial work, 'Photographic Illustrations of Scripture,' Mr. Miller took exception to the statement of Mr. Wilson that there are several distinct species of dogs, making at the same time some remarks as to the bearing of this point on the still more important question of the unity of the human species. Without entering into the details of the canine controversy, which has been conducted with learning and ingenuity on both sides, we must say that the positive proofs, from observation and experiment, as adduced by Mr. Wilson, set aside all mere negative arguments on the question of the union and fertility of distinct species. But this in no way touches the point of the specific standing of the dog. It may only show that naturalists have made too hasty a generalization in regard to hybridous union. The facts cited by Mr. Wilson prove that such unions take place between species generically allied. The evidences of the specific identity of the different varieties of the dog are manifold, and the occasional direct hybrids from crosses with allied species only serve to diminish surprise at the diversity of form in an animal as widely diffused over the globe as man himself. From all the facts adduced, the theory of the dog having no distinct specific character is far more tenable than that of the several varieties being distinct species. Certainly no analogical argument can be drawn for the existence of diversity of species in the human race. Mr. Miller's papers contain some curious and striking illustrations from monumental records, and from history as well as from science.

The following is from a correspondent in Germany:—"I have to mention the death of the celebrated and popular German writer, Bitzius, better known under the *nom de guerre* of Jeremias Gotthelf. He was born in Murten in 1797, and died last October. He did not begin to publish until 1835, and then his works followed each other in rapid succession. Bitzius, when he had finished his college career at Göttingen, was appointed pastor to a small congregation in Switzerland; here he passed his whole life, and spent the latter part of it in writing stories, the materials of which are drawn from the strong and vigorous life of the Swiss peasant. These tales are very simple but very beautiful, marked by a healthy tone, energetic spirit, and true and deep religious feeling; there is not a particle of cant in them, no exaggerated

expression, or maudlin sentimentality. He worked for the people, saw things with their eyes, and from their point of view, and in all his stories you find pure feelings and noble thoughts. Karl Begas, an historical painter of considerable merit, has recently died. He was born near Aix-la-Chapelle, and began his artistic studies at Cologne. He soon received a travelling pension from the King of Prussia, and made his way to Rome, where he worked diligently for some years; on his return to Germany he was appointed Professor of the Academy at Berlin, where he died on the 24th November. He has been more successful in his portraits than in his historical works—the last show considerable knowledge of art and feeling for his subject, but are tame in their execution. Director von Kaulbach, who is staying at present at Munich, intends this winter to finish, in chalk and charcoal drawing, the great cartoon for the fifth picture in the Museum. The outline is already finished,—the subject of the cartoon is the 'Arrival of the Crusaders before Jerusalem.' Fritz Kaulbach, a near relation of the Director's, has been for some time occupied upon a large picture representing the coronation of the Emperor Charles the Great by the Pope. This work was ordered by King Maximilian of Bavaria for his great historical gallery. Kaulbach has, however, been obliged to postpone the finishing of this work for a time, as he has been commissioned by Duke Max to paint a life-size portrait of the Empress of Austria. The picture is to be a three-quarter-length figure, and the dress simple,—a tulle robe spangled with silver flowers, and with an underdress of white satin; no ornaments of any kind to be in the picture.

During the short session of Parliament before Christmas, Mr. Ewart moved for the production of papers relative to the new coal fields near Heraclea, on the southern shore of the Black Sea. A letter from Mr. Arthur Anderson, in 'The Times' this week, narrates the discovery of this vast store of mineral wealth in 1841, and the attempt made to turn it to account, but without effect, through the stupidity and jealousy of the Turkish authorities. Mr. Anderson publishes the detailed reports made at that time, by Dr. Davy, and by Mr. Granville Withers, a civil engineer, which contain most encouraging accounts of the practicability of the mines being most profitably worked. It is now suggested that arrangements should be sought with the Turkish Government for the coal-fields of Heraclea being worked by English capital and skill. The scheme is one of great importance, not only with reference to the immediate proceedings in the Black Sea connected with the war, but for the supply of steamers by the overland route to India, and for the railroads which, at no distant time, will open up the now neglected regions of Western Asia. We have little doubt that the coal-fields of Heraclea will play an important part in the future history of that part of the world. With sufficient guarantees from the Turkish Government, which could at this time be easily obtained, English capital and labour would soon be directed to this enterprise. Meanwhile, for the use of the public service, Mr. Anderson suggests that Mr. Peto's navvies should be sent to Heraclea, after finishing their work at Balaklava.

The programme arranged for the forthcoming Friday evening Lectures at the Royal Institution is as follows:—Professor Faraday, 'On some Points of Magnetic Philosophy.' Professor J. Tyndall, 'On the Nature of the Force by which Bodies are Repelled from the Poles of a Magnet.' The Astronomer-Royal, 'On the Pendulum-experiments lately made in the Harton Colliery, for ascertaining the Mean Density of the Earth.' Professor Owen, 'On the Orangs and Chimpanzees, and their Structural Relations to Man.' Dr. J. H. Gladstone, 'On Explosives.' John Dickinson, Esq., 'On Providing an Additional Supply of Pure Water for London.' Dr. John Stenhouse, 'On the Economical Applications of Charcoal to Sanitary Purposes.' Thomas Sopwith, Esq., 'On the Mining Districts of the North of England.' Professor G. G. Stokes, 'On Colour considered as a Discriminating Character of Bodies.' Rev. John Eyre Ashby,

'On (so called) Catalytic Action and Combustion; and theories of Catalysis.' Rev. John Barlow, 'On the Application of Chemistry to the Preservation of Food.'

The Academy of Sciences of France held its annual sitting in Paris on Monday. M. Combes, the President, read a paper, setting forth the prizes and recompenses awarded for various useful discoveries during the year, or for the best treatises on certain specified subjects. Only one of the prizes given presented any interest to English readers, and that was the Lalande astronomical prize, which was divided amongst Messrs. Luther, Marth, Hind, Ferguson, Goldschmidt, and Chacornac, for the discovery of new planets. After this part of the business was disposed of, M. Laugier read a very interesting biographical paper, by the late Arago, on Malus, a French philosopher, who died in 1812, and who is famous for researches on light, and for the discovery of polarization.

The daily papers record the death, on the 20th ult., at the age of sixty-seven, of Mr. W. R. Macdonald, a gentleman industriously occupied in the early part of his life in editing a weekly newspaper, and subsequently in preparing books for the young. "Among his publications," says a correspondent, "may also be mentioned a valuable octavo volume entitled, 'Christianity, Protestantism, and Popery Compared and Contrasted,' a work which is a complete manual of evidence in favour of religious reformation from Popery, and contains many substantial arguments which have full claim to originality. To his pen belong also the following poems: 'Mechanical Tales,' 'Judges in Ireland,' 'Fables of the Day,' 'Economy of Human Life Verified,' 'Comic Alphabet,' and others of a more or less ephemeral character."

From Cambridge we learn that the subject of the Seatonian prize poem for 1855 is to be the 'Plurality of Worlds.' Each candidate is to send in his poem privately to the Vice-Chancellor before the 29th of September, and the Vice-Chancellor, the Master of Clare Hall, and the Professor of Greek, are to act as adjudicators. The value of the prize is 40*l*. The name of Mr. Savage, of St. John's College, is mentioned as the probable senior wrangler for the ensuing year.

We take the opportunity of cautioning the public against sending books to a Dr. Henry Dewhurst, who styles himself an F.R.S., but who, it is almost needless to say, is not a member of the Society commonly designated by those initials. The following letter has been received, in Edinburgh, by Mr. Stark, author of the 'Popular History of British Mosses,' lately published:—

"7, Peter Street, Southwark Bridge Road, London. "Dr. Henry Dewhurst, F.R.S., presents his compliments to Mr. Stark, and respectfully informs him that he will have much pleasure in reviewing his work on 'British Mosses,' in the English and Irish journals he contributes to, on the receipt of a copy, post or carriage free, for that specific purpose. "Dr. D. will feel highly honoured and most grateful, if Mr. S. will kindly condescend to subscribe to his forthcoming illustrated work on 'The Philosophy of Temperance,' 12*s*. 6*d*. "The favour of an early reply will much oblige."

The envelope in which this was enclosed is marked "paid, private, and immediate."

M. Ingres, the distinguished French painter, has just terminated an excellent painting of Joan of Arc (or rather Joan Darc, for such, it is now known, is the proper way of spelling the name, Joan having been the daughter of a peasant, and therefore not entitled to the aristocratic prefix *de*). The heroine is represented standing on the steps of the altar in the Cathedral of Rheims, at the coronation of the monarch she restored. M. Ingres seems to consider this picture his *chef d'œuvre*, and he has introduced his own portrait into it, in the person of a knight kneeling at Joan's feet.

Artists intending to exhibit in the Grand Universal Exhibition at Paris, are required to send in their works between the 15th of the present month and the 15th March. The works are to be accompanied with a declaration of the name, Christian name, birthplace, and address of the artist. *Apropos* of the Exhibition, it may be stated that German artists will figure in it in full force and in great numbers.

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Fogelberg, the celebrated Swedish sculptor, died recently, from cholera, at Trieste. He was a pupil of Canova and Thorwaldsen, and for many years resided at Rome. His most recent works were two large equestrian statues of Gustavus Adolphus and of Charles John XIV. (Bernadotte). They were both cast in bronze in the Royal Foundry at Munich, and the former has been erected at Gothenburg and the latter at Stockholm.

A picture of great artistic value, by the younger Teniers, which has hitherto been buried in a private collection in Belgium, has just been purchased in France, by Count Duchatel, Minister of the Interior under King Louis Philippe. The subject is a Flemish market. The price paid for the picture is 1000*l*.

We noticed but a few weeks since the death of one of the Scottish judges, Lord Rutherford, and now the death of Lord Robertson is announced at Edinburgh, on the 10th inst. The mortality on the Scottish bench has been remarkable of late years, not one, we believe, of the thirteen judges who sat in 1843 now surviving. Lord Robertson's eloquence, wit, and social qualities will long be remembered in Scotland. As an author he sought celebrity late in life, by turning sonneteer, and published two volumes of poetry, which were noticed by us at the time of their appearance. Another Edinburgh name to add to our literary obituary is that of Dr. A. Crichton, LL.D., an industrious journalist, and author of some volumes in Constable's Miscellany, and other works of merit.

Arago's complete works have been brought out in German and Italian, as well as in English and French.

The Mendelssohn Festival, under M. Jullien's direction, at Covent Garden on Tuesday evening, afforded a great treat to all lovers of classical music. The grand Concerto in G Minor for the pianoforte was admirably given by Madame Pleyel, who in the spirit of this performance showed as much taste and feeling, as she has on previous occasions displayed skill and power in managing more florid compositions. Herr Ernst's performance of the grand Concerto in E was worthy of his reputation as the first violinist of the day; and Miss Dolby sang 'The First Violet' in a style worthy of the occasion. The chief orchestral pieces performed were the Italian Symphony, and the Wedding March, with which the Mendelssohn part of the entertainment concluded. In the miscellaneous concert which followed, M. Jullien's Allied Armies Quadrille, and the Pantomime Quadrille, were received with unabated popular applause; and Miss Dolby gave a Jacobite air, 'Over the Sea,' with much spirit.

At Paris the dramatic and musical events on the first week of a new year are never very important, and accordingly we have nothing in the shape of novelty to record. Our letters, however, contain a few items of news. At the Grand Opera, Auber's *Muette* continues to make brilliant receipts. Madame Stoltz has made her peace with *l'Administration*, with which she had quarrelled, and has reappeared in the *Favorite*. At the same theatre M. Neri Baraldi, an Italian, has *débüté*, as first tenor, but his voice possesses no great compass, his manner is cold in the extreme, and he has not the slightest notion of acting. The total receipts of the Paris theatres, concerts, and public amusements in general, during the last year, were 486,362*l*. The veteran Frederick Lemaitre has been engaged at the Ambigu, to play his famous part of *Le Paillasse*, and, though he is but the wreck of what he used to be, all Paris is going to see him. Rachel is quite determined on accepting the brilliant engagement offered her in America, so that the multitudes of visitors who are expected to flock to Paris, during the Exhibition, will find Paris without its most distinguished theatrical celebrity.

There is no novelty of importance to note this week at our London theatres. At the Adelphi the acting is very good in *The Mysterious Stranger*. A new adaptation from a French piece is to be produced to-night at the Princess's.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL. — Jan. 8th. — The Master of Trinity, F.R.S., in the chair. Mr. Thomas Muir was elected a Fellow. A paper was read 'On a Journey Performed in Persia,' by Mr. Keith E. Abbott, H.M.'s Consul at Teheran, communicated by the Earl of Clarendon. The next paper read was a despatch from Dr. Livingston, containing his routes from Lake Ngami through the interior of South Africa to Angola, communicated by Sir Roderick I. Murchison; and the following extract of a letter from Mr. Edward Gabriel, her Majesty's Arbitrator at Loanda:—

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Edward Gabriel, her Majesty's Arbitrator at Loanda, Oct. 16, 1854.

"I only returned from the interior a day or two since, after accompanying Mr. Livingston as far as Icollo, about fifty miles from Bana do Bengo. We spent three days there with the Chefe Qui Lorencó Marques, and then we parted, my worthy friend and his faithful band proceeding onward, on the route into the interior, and I returning to Loanda. I will send you the next opportunity a most gratifying letter I have since received from him, and give you some particulars as to his proceedings and future intentions, route, &c., but just now I am very hard pressed for time.

"With this I enclose to Woodhead Mr. Livingston's last supplemental letter to Sir Roderick Murchison, containing the chart of his track from Sekeleu's town, on the Sambese, to Cassenge; but from Cassenge to Loanda his longitudes are only laid down in pencil, because he was too ill, after passing Cassenge, to take his lunars, &c., for longitude. He is now journeying through the whole of the interior of the province, devoting himself entirely to his observations, and the result is to be sent home from Cassenge. He made me a copy of the chart he now sends to Sir Roderick.

"I send you the Boletín, with the last number of Mr. Livingston's 'apartamentos,' which have made quite a stir here. I have plenty to tell you of this worthy person yet—a truly noble specimen of mankind. May Heaven protect him! He was in rude health when we separated, determined to stop at no difficulties in reaching 'Quilimane,' on the east coast."

Letter from E. Hammond, Esq., Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to Dr. Shaw, the Secretary.

Foreign-office, Dec. 30, 1854.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the President and Council of the Royal Geographical Society, the accompanying copies of a despatch and its enclosure from Lieutenant-Colonel Herman, her Majesty's Consul at Tripoli, reporting that some slight hope may still be entertained that the report of Dr. Barth's death is unfounded.

"I am also directed to enclose to you a copy of a letter from Dr. Vogel, giving an account of the progress of the expedition under his command, together with eight papers, in original, containing astronomical, magnetic, and meteorological observations.—I am, sir, &c.

(Signed)

"E. HAMMOND.

"To the Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society."

Tripoli, Nov. 23, 1854.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to transmit to your lordship the copy of a letter (12th August) which reached me yesterday from Mr. Church, of the Sappers and Miners, attached to the African mission, that throws considerable doubt upon the truth of the report of Dr. Barth's death.

"It is true that the death of the enterprising traveller, as reported by Dr. Vogel in his private letter to me of the 18th of July last, is formally announced in a letter to her Majesty from the Sultan of Bornou, which I have had the honour of transmitting to your lordship in a separate despatch; that to myself he has likewise repeated the same intelligence, supported by the concurring testimony of his kinsman, Hadj Hassen, who accompanied Dr. Vogel from Murzuk to Kuka. But it must be borne in mind that the Sultan, Hadj, and the doctor all derived their information from the selfsame source. The pivot upon which the

question of probability turns is, whether Dr. Barth had reached Sokotu, or not? On this point there is no precise information; but the report of the sheriff, who had just arrived at Kuka, leads to a conclusion in the negative.

"In fact, it is inconceivable that one so skilled in African travel—aware, moreover, as he was, previous to leaving Timbuctu, that Dr. Vogel and his party were in Kuka or its immediate vicinity—having reached Sokotu in safety, should not immediately have despatched a courier from thence to announce his approaching arrival at Kuka, and thus secure, as far as depended upon himself, the junction of the two parties. So simple a precaution would at least have arrested any movement on the part of Dr. Vogel in an eccentric direction.

"On the other hand, after leaving Sokotu, if the report of his death at Meroda be unfounded, he must long ago have reached his base of supplies at Zinder, from whence we again ought to have heard from him, either through Ghadames or Murzuk.

"Against this last hypothesis may be urged the possibility of his despatches having been intercepted by the predatory bands of the Tuariks, who for some time past have infested the roads between those two places and Zinder.

"It is certainly strange that the people of the great caravan which has just arrived from Kuka, many of whom came from the immediate vicinity of Meroda about a month after the period of Dr. Barth's reported death, should have been ignorant of the event; and still more singular is it that none of his servants—unless, having plundered his baggage, they afterwards dispersed—should have arrived at Kuka to claim at least the large arrears of pay which Dr. Barth reported to me were due to them.

"The mission of Dr. Vogel's servant to Meroda will, however, solve this problem; in the meantime there exists a ray (a faint one, I grant) of hope that Dr. Barth may yet be restored to his friends and the world of science.—I have, &c.

(Signed)

"G. T. HERMAN.

"To the Earl of Clarendon, &c."

Kuka, Aug. 12, 1854.

"Sir,—Knowing that Dr. Vogel has reported to you, in a letter of which Mr. Henry Warrington is the bearer, that he had received intelligence of the death of Dr. Barth, I have thought it my duty to communicate to you the following piece of information, which I received this morning, and which, I am happy to say, still leaves a strong hope that all is well with Dr. Barth, and that the first information was false.

"A sheriff belonging to a place near Timbuctu arrived here on the 9th inst.; he says he left Timbuctu about four months ago; that when he left, Dr. Barth was still there and quite well, but that he was going to leave in a short time for Kuka, and that he was getting letters from the Sultan of Timbuctu to the different Felatah chiefs, through whose country he would have to pass on his return to Kuka, and he thinks it likely that he is now on his journey to this place.

"I am inclined to put more confidence in his than in the other report, as this sheriff is not giving his information for the sake of getting a present, for he is such a fanatic that he will not even see us unbelievers, but communicated this intelligence to an Arab, a friend of Dr. Barth, in Kuka.

"But what makes me more inclined to doubt the report of his death is, that out of a large caravan which has just arrived here from Kauno not one person has heard anything of the death of Dr. Barth, nor seen any of his servants, although some of them have come from places near Meroda, the place where Dr. Barth is reported to have died, and they left those places three weeks or a month after we heard the report of his death. But as Massoud, Dr. Vogel's servant, left here on the 26th July to go to Kauno to make inquiry about Dr. Barth, I have great hopes that we shall soon hear for certain that he is alive and well.

"We have not heard anything of Dr. Vogel since he left here on the 19th July, but we think it very likely that he is in Maudera.

"Mr. H. Warrington" leaves here to-morrow, and I am happy to say that we are all enjoying the blessing of good health. Hoping this will find you in the best health, I remain, &c.

(Signed)

"T. F. CHURCH.

"To Lieut-Colonel Herman, Tripoli."

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 18th.—The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, V.P., in the chair. Lord Wharnclyffe and seven other candidates were elected Fellows. 'On the Statistical Position of Religious Bodies in England and Wales,' By Horace Mann, Esq. The author founded his observations on the Census Returns of religious worship and education, the substantial correctness of which was maintained in the course of a brief review of the objections which, in some quarters, had been urged against them, on the ground of prejudices hostile to the Church, supposed to have been entertained by the census authorities, and on the ground of exaggeration in their returns, supposed to have been made by the dissenters. Assuming the general accuracy of the Census Tables, the author proceeded to give as a basis for an estimate of the strength of the different communions statements of the number of churches, chapels, and sittings provided by each body, and of the number of persons who attended the various services on the 30th March, 1851. It was supposed that the total number of individuals who attended once on that Sunday was 7,261,032; of which number 3,773,474 belonged to the Church of England, and 3,487,558 to other communions. But this number it was argued, applying only to one particular Sunday, could not be taken to represent the total number of persons who were in the habit of attending more or less constantly at public worship; and of any addition to be made on this account, it was considered that the Church should receive the larger portion, inasmuch, as from whatever cause, her adherents were undoubtedly less regular in their attendance than dissenters. Of the considerable number who are constantly absent from public worship, it was thought that no distribution among the different bodies could be properly made by referring to any other signs of their connexion with particular communities. Alluding to the educational returns, it was pointed out that while the Church of England had fewer Sunday scholars by 497,255 than the dissenters, she had 671,224 more day scholars; and the idea was suggested that it was mainly through the influence of the dissenting Sunday-school that so many of those who passed through Church day-schools were not retained in her communion. It was shown, however, that the Church was rapidly increasing the number of her Sunday-schools; and that during the last twenty years upwards of 4700 had been established. A continuance of such efforts or of others with similar objects would, it was imagined, where combined with the virtual monopoly of popular day-school education, produce in future years, very striking changes in the aspect of religious bodies. The author then referred to the position of the various bodies in different localities, showing that in fourteen counties (chiefly in Wales) the accommodation furnished by dissenters exceeded that furnished by the Church to the number of 773,352 sittings; but in all the other counties the Church had a majority, amounting in the aggregate to 1,196,619 sittings. The author concluded by a reference to the rate at which the Church of England was progressing in the matter of church building, and showed that since 1801 she had built about 2700 churches, containing about a million of sittings, of which no fewer than 2194 churches and 836,024 sittings were provided since 1831. During the same interval the dissenters also made a large addition to their accommodation, but the data, it was thought, was not in their case sufficiently certain to determine the precise rate of increase. The paper was illustrated by a large diagram showing for each of the religious bodies the number of sittings; the attendance morning, afternoon, and evening: the estimated attendance

at one or other of the services; the number of Sunday scholars and the number of day scholars. The paper led to a long discussion.

R. S. OF LITERATURE.—Dec. 13th.—The Earl of Carlisle, President, in the chair. Mr. Hogg read a paper, in which he called attention to the assertion of M. de Sauley, in his recent travels in the Holy Land, to the effect that the celebrated Egyptian inscriptions, at the Nahr-el-Kelly, near Beirút, were forgeries. Mr. Hogg stated that this assertion had been completely contradicted, by another well-known French traveller, the Comte de Bertou, and that, in consequence, M. de Sauley had addressed a letter to the editor of the 'Athenæum Français,' in which he admits the existence of the inscriptions in question, and regrets his previous statement. M. de Bertou mentions the discovery, by himself, at Adloun, of a stile, which he considers to be one of those referred to by Herodotus (ii. c. 106) commemorative of the march of Sesostris. Mr. Vaux called attention to a discovery, by Mr. Isidore von Löwenstern, of the tomb of the last of the Paleologi, Constantine XIII., in the ruins of the monastery of Pantocrator. M. Löwenstern will, at some future period, forward full particulars of this interesting discovery.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Statistical, 8 p.m.—(On the effect of the recent Orders in Council, in respect to our own Commerce and that of Neutrals, by Alfred Waddell, D.C.L.)
- Tuesday.**—Linnean, 8 p.m.
- Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Tyndall on Magnetism.)
- Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Description of the Aqueduct of Roque-favour, near Marseilles, by G. Benne.)
- Pathological, 8 p.m.
- Wednesday.**—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Mr. George Muir on the Smoke Nuisance considered Historically, Morally, Scientifically, and Practically.)
- Geological, 8 p.m.—(Mr. E. Hopkins on the Vertical and Meridional Lamination of Primary Rocks, and on Cleavage Planes; showing that these Phenomena are due to some general cause; 2. Mr. Odenheimer on the Geology of the Peel River Gold-district, Australia, Communicated by Sir R. Murchison, F.G.S.)
- London Institution, 7 p.m.
- Thursday.**—Royal, 8 p.m.
- Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Mr. W. B. Donne on English Literature.)
- Artists' and Amateurs' Conversazione, 8 p.m.
- Royal Academy, 8 p.m.—(Professor Cockerell on Architecture.)
- Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
- Friday.**—Royal Institution, 8 p.m.—(Professor Faraday on some points of Magnetic Philosophy.)
- Saturday.**—Medical, 8 p.m.
- Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Dr. J. H. Gladstone on the Principles of Chemistry.)

VARIETIES.

The Walter Scott Manuscript?—I decidedly believe M. Cabany to be of perfect good faith in the affair. With the most frank and obliging courtesy he enabled me to look over the manuscript of the first volume of 'Moreduin.' The writing is small but easily legible, rapid, and without any decided character. As far as a hasty glance could satisfy me of the style, I could detect nothing grossly improbable. The dialogue here and there seemed vivid and strong, and a description of scenery from the top of Dunsinane Hill was much in the manner of Sir Walter: the touches broad, and the same time careful, with, however, a certain something trivial in the general manner. There is a picturesque and animated conference between the Scotch and English kings more particularly in Sir Walter's vein. On the whole, I could not be convinced, on so cursory a glance, that it might not be written by a dexterous imitator (I do not say forger) of Sir Walter's style, while all I saw of M. Cabany certainly convinces me that he is a man of perfect sincerity, I may almost say naïveté, in the affair, and believes in his own story. He is Secretary to the Society of Archivists. . . . I should not omit to mention a chapter describing

an inundation at Scone, which for power of word-painting M. Cabany says is finer than anything of the sort he ever read—*It is terribly real.* . . . He does not affirm the authenticity of the manuscript; he merely relates how the manuscript came into his possession, with its history attached to it—and he leaves it to the critics and to the public to judge. M. Cabany says that 'Moreduin' is so crammed with incident and dramatic interest that Alexander Dumas would have made fifty volumes of it, and he intends himself to put it, after publication, into the hands of a dramatist. M. Cabany encourages the supposition that it was thrown aside by Sir Walter as a rough framework of a story to be filled up with his usual elaboration at some future time. At all events, I think it looks like the work of a young hand. The scene is mostly laid in Scotland, in the neighbourhood of Perth, with episodes on the Border.—*Paris Correspondent of the Leader.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

'A Country Member' of the British Archaeological Association is reminded that the manuscript to which he objects does not emanate alone from Mr. Hugo, who appears, from the following letter, to be rather desirous, than not, of withdrawing from the contest.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

'57, Bishopsgate Street Within,

11th January, 1855.

"Sir,—I beg to thank you for your desire of reconciliation, to which there would be no objection, provided that a material guarantee were given for the future avoidance of the evils against which it has been our painful duty to contend. I also beg to offer my cordial thanks to my 'slight acquaintance, but true friend,' 'A Country Member,' for the kindness of his feelings to me, and the very flattering terms in which he is pleased to write of me.

"As for his opinion of what I ought to do, I beg to assure him that I agree with him entirely, and that my resignation was determined on for the very purpose of avoiding the continuance of 'an unseemly and profitless secular contest.' Any portion of a life is, in my opinion, far too valuable to be so wasted, and especially when the object on which it is expended is so little worthy of the sacrifice.

"I may add that although I have not been 'co-operating with acknowledged enemies of the Association,' who were not my friends previous to the commencement of the squabble, I have been earnestly desired by some of its acknowledged friends to prolong the agitation of the question until the Annual Meeting in April, when it is probable that justice will be done to us. My sacred position, however, and my own private feelings, alike forbid my concurrence with such a scheme. My resignation, therefore, will be presented on the 24th inst. I am, &c.

"THOMAS HUGO."

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JOHN CAZENOVE, Secretary.

* Whose death has been since confirmed.

LAW LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE, Fleet
Street, London, December 28, 1854.—NOTICE is hereby
Given, that a GENERAL MEETING of PROPRIETORS of the
LAW LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY will be held at the Society's
Office, Fleet Street, London, on FRIDAY, the 2nd of February
next, at 12 o'clock at noon precisely, pursuant to the provisions of
the Society's Deed of Settlement, for the purpose of receiving the
Auditor's Annual Report of the Accounts of the Society up to the
31st December, 1854; to elect two Directors in the room of Thomas
Clarke, Esq., deceased, and Edward Lawford, Esq., who has dis-
qualified; and for general purposes.

The Director to be chosen in the room of Thomas Clarke, Esq.,
will remain in office until 24th June, 1855; the Director to be chosen
in the room of Edward Lawford, Esq., will remain in office until
24th June, 1856. By order of the Directors,
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OVID, *Fastor*, Lib. III., 273.

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